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Poetry.

THE TOWN OF NOGOOD.

My friend, have you heard of the town of Nogood,
On the banks of the River Slow,
Where blooms the Waitawhile flower fair,
Where the Sometimeorother scents the air,
And the soft Goeasys grow?

It lies in the valley of Whatstheuse,
In the province of Leterslide:
Thattiredfeeling is native there,
It's the home of the reckless Idon'tcare,
Where the Giveitups abide.

The town is as old as the human race,
And it grows with the flight of years.
It is wrapped in the fog of idlers' dreams,
Its streets are paved with discarded schemes
And sprinkled with useless tears.

The Collegebredfool and the Richman'sheir
Are plentiful there, no doubt;
The rest of its crowd are a motley crew
With every class except one in view—
The Foolkiller is barred out.

The town of Nogood is all hedged about
By the Mountains of Despair,
No sentinel stands on its gloomy walls,
No trumpet to battle and triumph calls,
For cowards alone are there.

My friend, from the dead-alive town Nogood
If you would keep far away,
Just follow your duty through good and ill,
Take this for your motto, "I can, I will,"
And live up to it each day.
—New Haven Register.

ONLY A GLASS OF LIQUOR.

Only a glass of liquor, but in it what pain and woe!
None but the broken-hearted and wife of the drunkard know;
Many a loving brother has perished by its might,
Though a mother strove to save him and guide his steps aright;
What dearth and awful misery follow in its wake
To those who chose the serpent their burning thirst to slake;
Its sting is sure and fatal to those within its grasp,
It slowly coils around them and finally holds them fast.

Only a glass of liquor, but it wrecked a happy home!
It threw its shadow o'er it, and now all joy has flown
From out its peaceful chambers, that then were bright with cheer,
But now are dark and silent with sadness, cold and dread.
The walls once hung with pictures are now but vacant space,
For beauty fled with pleasure, and n'er shall be replaced;
For Drink with vise-like fingers has seized upon its prey,
And like a ruthless tyrant it bears the form away.
—H. G.

Miscellany.

HIS MONEY'S WORTH.

Not seldom in Highland districts the attendance at church during unpropitious weather is but scanty. One minister, says "Household Words," finding himself on a boisterous Sunday, confronted with but one solitary auditor, who happened to be a gruff, outspoken character, took

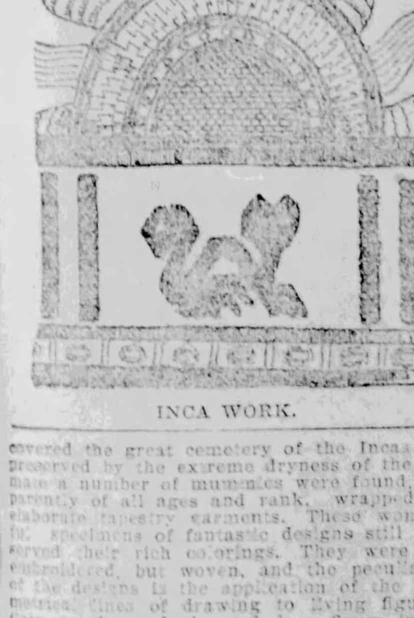
"WILL I GO ON WITH THE SERMON, JOHN?"

him into his confidence, with a view to propitiate him. "Will I go on with the sermon, John?" John, gruffly: "Of course." Getting into the pulpit, and leaning over it, he asked: "Will I give you the Gaelic sermon or the English one?" John, more gruffly still: 'Gi'e's baith; ye're weel paid for 't."

HISTORICAL PATTERNS.

In this nineteenth century pretty women with shining needles are probably reproducing the histories of the long-buried Peruvian monarchs, the Inca princes.

This has come about in a curious way. Some ten years ago a company which was building a new railroad near Lima accidentally dis-



INCA WORK.

covered the great cemetery of the Incas and preserved by the extreme dryness of the climate a number of mummies were found, apparently of all ages and rank, wrapped in elaborate tapestry garments. These wonderful specimens of fantastic designs still preserved their rich colorings. They were not embroidered, but woven, and the peculiarity of the designs is the application of the geometrical lines of drawing to living figures. Cats, monkeys, ducks and dogs figure in all of the pieces as they were worshipped by the Incas and doubtless the queer lines are a form of hieroglyphics relating the stories of the persons whose bodies they wrapped. Clever needlewomen are reproducing the designs, using coarse flannel of a wide, specially woven width which makes effective portieres, sofa and piano coverings and chairbacks. A billiard table cover has also been devised. Tapestry worsted is used to embroider with. The ground in each specimen is carefully filled in with darning stitch, oriental stitch being used in the borders.

Just About.

Teacher—"Johnnie, suppose your mother cuts a pound of meat into eight parts, what will each part be?"

Johnnie—"One-eighth of a pound."

T.—"Correct. Now, suppose she cuts each eighth in two, what will each part be then?"

J.—"One-sixteenth of a pound."

T.—"Now, suppose she cuts each sixteenth in six pieces, what will each piece be?"

J.—"Hash!"—Up-to-Date.

ENGLAND'S STRONG MAN

STATIONED AT BIRMINGHAM TO TEST HER MAJESTY'S SWORDS.

Her Troops in India Demand a Supply of Swords Instead of Fine Rifles—Tested on an Elm Block.

The recent English defeats in India have so alarmed Lord Salisbury that he has prevailed upon the Queen to send a supply of fine Birmingham swords to the English troops in India to take the place of the rifles now in use.

Fighting at close range the English have been driven back from their strongholds, through the impotence of their bayonets, which crumpled under a thrust, and the delicacy of their swords, that snapped when in use. The troops of India, on the other hand, armed with native dirks and swords, made steady advances, and the result was defeat rather than advance.

Victoria has opposed the use of swords, but now consents to their use, and, proud of her work, she has for the first time in the history of Great Britain thrown open to the public the Royal Small Arms factory at Sparkbrock, near Birmingham.

Sword Making.

Hitherto the Queen has carefully guarded the making of her rifles and swords, and those who were in the secret have, like Hiram Maxim with his gun, kept to themselves the process by which Victoria's small arms are made. But in these days of war talk it is not a bad thing to know how these pieces of steel are turned out.

In the first place England does not pretend to use all the arms that she manufactures, but she goes on making them and storing them away in the big storehouses for use some day if need be.

The process by which the rifles are made is not greatly different from that of other countries, but the swords have a process of their own, which is truly remarkable.

The bars of crude steel are brought in loads to the factory, with great rough blocks of wood, ready to be made into swords. The building in which they are made is a long, low one, and each workman is impressed with the importance of his position. In Her Majesty's workshops there is no such thing as slighting a piece of work. The men are paid large sums, even in these days of English low wages, and each understands that he has an important part of the work resting on his shoulders.

The workmen in the first open shops were at work upon bars of rolled steel, which they were heating and turning into different shapes, ready to be carried, red hot out of the furnace, and deposited into a massive machine.

Here the steel was elongated and cut off at the right length. It was then placed under a steam hammer, which shaped it in approximately the shape that it finally bears, the rifles were rounded and the sword steel flattened.

It was then put through a bewildering mass of machinery, going from one machine to another, until it had passed through one hundred processes, and been carried by twelve miles of leather belting.

It was afterward carried into another building, where final work was put upon it, and, finally, into the third building, where it was to be tested by machinery.

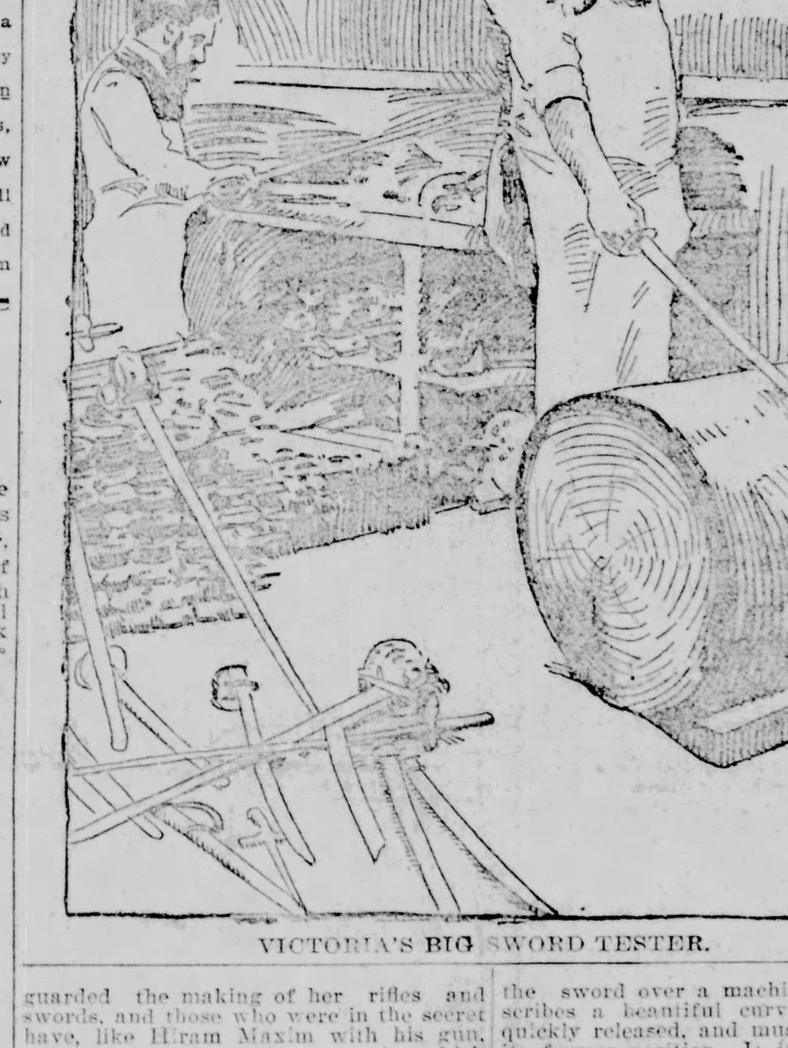
The Big Man.

The most interesting thing of all is the final testing of the swords. This is done by one man, the most powerful workman in the United Kingdom. He weighs nearly three hundred pounds and is as muscular as he is heavy. He is a giant, and could take a place in any dime museum in the world. He is an athlete, as well as a giant, and keeps up his strength by constant exercise.

This man's work is to test the swords. He has before him an immense elm block round and hard, without the smallest defect in it. It is absolutely smooth and there is no chance for a groove or flaw.

As the swords are turned out they are placed in great piles near this huge workman; and the giant takes them one by one and tries them upon the elm block. He takes his sword in his right hand, and with all his force strikes the block with the blade. If it proves equal to the test and does not snap he turns it over and strikes the block with the back of the sword. He stands alone in a big open space, so that no one can be hurt by a defective piece as it flies off. If it passes this test it is a pretty good sword, and needs only the final trial of the bridge.

The "bridge" trial consists in bending the sword over a machine until it describes a beautiful curve. It is then quickly released, and must snap back to its former position. It is said that one out of five swords break beneath it, and at each broken one the big man laughs and rubs his hand gleefully, for he has accomplished his mission—that of finding a defect in the steel. To watch him at work one would think he were a demon trying to destroy the weapon which is the pride and hope of the British army.



VICTORIA'S BIG SWORD TESTER.

Elegantly Made.

There has never been an armor scandal in Victoria's works, and perhaps it is to show how elegantly her royal arms are made that she has thrown open her factory for public inspection.

In another part she has a very nice department where weapons are repaired. Here sword handles are removed from defective swords and good swords put upon them.

A rifle goes through 150 processes before it is finally hardened. This hardening is done by dipping it when red hot into a vessel containing oil. The same process is carried on with a sword, only the steel is made much finer and the hardening processes are repeated many times.

The Queen is very proud of her big man who makes her royal arms, and once, when he was taken ill, she was so fearful of his life that she sent the royal physician down to Birmingham to treat him free of charge.

Swords are now being rapidly shipped to India, and English soldiers can fight at a short range without crumpling of their weapons.

AN EXPERIENCE IN THE SLUMS.

It Was Rather Rough on the Artist, but It Taught Him a Lesson.

An artist who is well known in a northern city used occasionally to put on his shabbiest clothes and penetrate to the slums in search of inspiration for his brush, says the London Weekly Telegraph. On one of these excursions he stopped to watch the efforts of a ragged urchin, who was disfiguring the pavement of a squalid street with a piece of soft, blue stone, and although the figures which the lad drew were grotesque, the artist was struck with their originality, and began to take an interest in their development.

"That's right, my boy, make your lines clear, and never mind the details. Champion! What, you don't know how to sketch that old man's head? Then give me the chalk; I'll show you."

The next moment the enthusiastic artist was on his knees, and with the piece of stone had quickly drawn a clever picture. Before he could commence another sketch, however, he felt a stunning blow on the head, and a shrill female voice cried:

"Take yer bloomin' hook, ye great, good-for-nought hulk! What d'ye mean by messin' up t'flags at I've just washed? 'Tain't no wonder 'at t'kids do it when a senseless old idiot like you sets 'em t'example. Be off, or I'll scour t'pavement wi' your ugly carcase!"

The artist hurriedly dodged another boot, sprang to his feet, and, without waiting to argue the matter, sneaked ignominiously off. He vows that he will mind his own business when next he goes slumming.

An Unkind Cut.

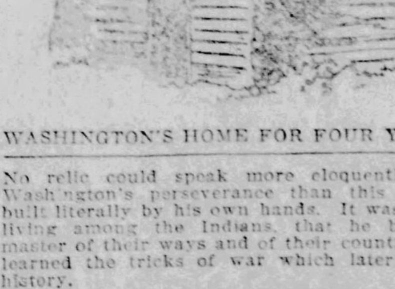
"My wife has a wonderful ear for distinguishing sounds. Half a dozen trains pass near our house every day, and she can recognize each locomotive by its toot."

"I suppose she recognizes you in the same way at 2 a. m."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

WASHINGTON'S CABIN.

Some three-quarters of a mile from Berryville, Clark county, Va., there stands a little log cabin which was built and occupied by George Washington between the years of 1748 and 1752, when he made his first step into public life and served as a young surveyor under Lord Fairfax.

For four years of his life Washington made his home in this hut, with no white face near.



WASHINGTON'S HOME FOR FOUR YEARS

No relic could speak more eloquently of Washington's perseverance than this cabin, built literally by his own hands. It was here, living among the Indians, that he became master of their ways and of their country and learned the tricks of war which later made history.

It Was His Name.

Smith—"Hello, here's a man coming whom I know slightly. I'm going to call him down."

"Jones—Call him down? What on earth for?"

Smith—"Oh, just because. (Pleasantly, to newcomer): "Ah, Mr. Downe, how are you this morning?"—New York World.

Experienced.

City Friend (enviously)—Well, I suppose you know all about gardening, now that you and your wife have been living out in the suburbs for a year?

Mr. Remotely (of Lonelyville, fervently)—Yes, we don't garden any more!

KILLED THE BIRD TOO LATE

"You really don't mean it?" said the kindly old woman with an incredulous smile to a Detroit Free Press writer, as she dropped her knitting into her lap. "Never heard why Miss Elden killed the parrot and is now a very old maid? Why it is one of our best local stories.

"Miss Elden's father, you know, had been a seafaring man. He was a big man, had a hot temper that he never

"GET OUT OF HERE, YOU SCOUNDREL!"

curbed, and a voice like a fog horn. He was not choice in his language and seemed to care little for anything in existence except his daughter and a parrot with a temper like his own, which he had brought with him from the East. That bird seemed to have human intelligence. It not only picked up sentences with the ease of most children, but uttered them in the tones of those from whom they had been learned. It could imitate them all.

"As a young girl Miss Elden was very pretty, though a little self-willed and haughty. Because of these qualities and because the captain thought no one was good enough for her, none of the young men found things very comfortable for them at her home. The captain thought nothing of making them get out and stay out. At length she rebelled against this way of treating her beaux, for her chances of marrying were dwindling. In the city she had met a very desirable gentleman and they were so congenial that he came out here to spend a few days so as to be near her. He went to the house with some fear, for the captain had a reputation. They were seated on the veranda when that bird roared: 'Get out of here, you scoundrel, or I'll break every bone in your body.' The youth never waited for his hat and before morning was out of town. She promptly wrung the bird's neck, but that was her last beau."

SAVED FROM THE WRECK

Everything had been swept away in the crash — stock of goods, business house, home, even the household furniture — and now the ruined man and wife stood with drawn and blanched faces as the auctioneer sold to the crowd of grasping and curious strangers their household goods and treasured heirlooms. Presently, says the New York Journal, he held up a rocking-horse, battered, scratched and paintless—the favorite plaything of their little golden-haired boy, now, alas, without even a roof to shelter him.

The woman turned pale, and the man started forward and cried hoarsely:

"Not that! Oh, not that!"

A sudden silence fell upon the gay and frivolous crowd of buyers, and the auctioneer, with a suspicion of moisture in his eyes, turned and handed him the toy. There were fathers and mothers among that worldly and chattering assemblage, and that one touch of nature in the cry forced from the parent's heart softened every soul present.

The man seized the faded rocking-horse and hurried, with the pale woman clinging to his arm, from the room.

They went to another part of the house,

"HOW COULD YOU FORGET IT?"

and he set the horse lovingly and tenderly upon the floor.

"How could you forget it?" asked the woman, reproachfully.

"I intended to hide it again," said the man, "but I had no opportunity."

He took out his knife, cut a slit in the horse's neck and drew out seventeen $1,000 bills neatly folded.

"Some day," said the woman, "your carelessness is going to ruin you."

Unhandy.

A number of ladies were standing not long since in the hall of a hotel in New York. They were all Boston women, but the fifth (who came down stairs) was from the West. She said: "Mrs. M—, will you kindly let me pass?"

"Certainly," replied Mrs. M—, "on condition that you will pronounce p-a-s-s as we do in Boston."

"That would be impossible," replied the Western women in perfect good humor, "but you are too many for me. Robert will have to be my champion." Turning to the tall darky whose place was at the door, she said, "Robert, do you think you could pronounce p-a-s-s as these Boston ladies do?"

"Yes'm—yes'm. I reckon I could if I was told to—but"—he hesitated in his desire to please both parties. "Yes'm. I reckon I could—but it would be powerful unhandy."—Judge.

Her Experience.

She was having a gown tried on and, as usual, it didn't suit her. She wanted certain changes made.

"Did you ever make dresses for dolls?" she asked finally, when the ordeal was over.

"Occasionally," answered the patient dressmaker

"Is there anything out of the ordinary in that line of work?"

"Yes."

"What?"

"They're easily pleased."

There is some doubt in her mind as to whether she has lost a customer, but she feels better, anyway.—Chicago Post.

CLEARED OUT THE CLINIC

Whistled "Annie Laurie" as Soon as He Smelled Ether.

Dr. Edwin Ricketts, of Cincinnati, is one of the largest men physically and mentally in the Southern Surgical and Gynecological association, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

He is known as a daring and skillful operator, and has achieved a reputation by his contributions to medical journals on abdominal surgery.

Those who know the doctor say he is as brave ordinarily as Julius Caesar. Yet, like the Styx-dipped Achilles, he has a vulnerable spot.

The story told on the genial surgeon comes from his home, Cincinnati. He was invited by a fellow physician to be present at a particularly difficult demonstration. Dr. Ricketts was late in arriving, and was forced to take a position on the outer edge of the circle of doctors and students. Nothing had been said about the condition of the subject, and he supposed it was a cadaver.

The figure was that of a giant Teuton, and to all appearances was perfectly rigid. Not a muscle stirred, and no breathing was perceptible.

The location of the operation was exposed, and the operator, grasping his knife, advanced to the patient. From beneath the flaxen mustache of the form on the table came the familiar notes of Annie Laurie, whistled clearly and distinctly.

The effect on the company was electrical. The operating surgeon's knife fell with a rattle to the floor, the students rushed for the door, and the older physicians stood transfixed with amazement.

Clear and sweet came the notes of the old song, even to the last bar. Then the tune was switched to Die Wacht am Rhein. By the time this was completed the room was empty of students, but the veteran physicians remained trembling at their posts. Suddenly the subject sat up. As he gazed over the row of white-aproned figures a wild light sprang into his eyes. With a yell he leaped from the table, and dealt the nearest physician a stunning blow in the face, then he attacked the others. Chairs, tables, bookcases were overturned, glasses smashed and furniture demolished.

The physicians got outside and waited the cooling of the German's passion. Gradually he became calmer until at last he sank exhausted in a chair. The medical men advanced in a body and demanded an explanation. The patient could give none. For a time he was crazy.

Dr. Ricketts was informed that the man had been under the influence of an anaesthetic and was asked to assist in the operation.

The patient insisted that the work go on, and chloroform was substituted for ether. The knives were brought out and an incision was about to be made when, for the second time, the strains of Annie Laurie fell upon the ears of the company.

This time there was no delay. Everybody except Dr. Ricketts fled to the street. A few moments later he, too, had to seek refuge from the huge fist of the German, who was again on the rampage.

After this second outbreak the demonstration was abandoned.

The strange consequences of the anaesthetic were never satisfactorily explained by the medical fraternity, but to this day Dr. Ricketts cannot hear the strains of the old Scotch song without quaking in his shoes and dodging imaginary blows.

VERY BEST AUTHORITY.

It was at the club—a man club—and the members were discussing women, possibly from a realizing sense of how little they could ever possibly know about the subject, and with a laudable desire to learn by pooling their general information as much as might be, says the Boston "Budget." From woman in the abstract the conversation drifted naturally to a consideration of the more concrete expression of a feminine phe-

"I USED TO BE MARRIED TO HER MYSELF, YOU KNOW."

nomenon—in other words, the company was talking wives, and each member was putting in his little claim to reflected glory, even as long ago did the happy husband of one Penelope.

"My wife," said the man from Chicago proudly, "has one of the finest minds I have met."

"Indeed she has," agreed the stranger who had just been introduced to the club.

The Chicago man looked up sharply. There was an authoritative sound in the stranger's voice that he did not like.

"Nevertheless," he continued, after a pause, "I must admit that she has her faults."

"Indeed she has," corroborated the stranger.

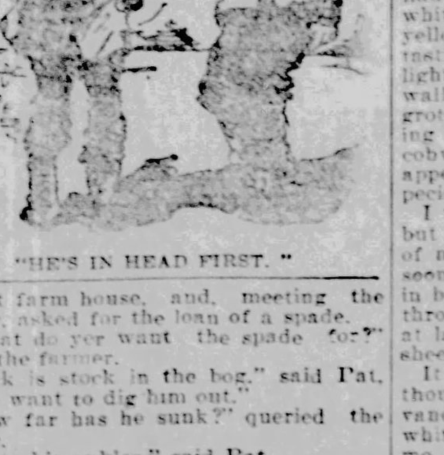
The Chicago man started to his feet. "See here, my friend," he exclaimed. "I should like to know by what authority you agree with me so definitely about my wife."

"The best in the world," said the stranger simply. "I used to be married to her myself, you know."

UP TO HIS ANKLES.

Two Irishmen recently were crossing Marlinstown bog, on their way to market, when one of them, Mick, slipped and fell into a big hole, says "Answers."

Pat, his mate, immediately ran to the



"HE'S IN HEAD FIRST."

nearest farm house, and, meeting the farmer, asked for the loan of a spade.

"What do yer want the spade for?" asked the farmer.

"Mick is stuck in the bog," said Pat, "and I want to dig him out."

"How far has he sunk?" queried the farmer.

"Up to his ankles," said Pat.

"Begone," said the farmer; 'sure, he can aisy walk out."

"Begorra," said Pat, 'he can't for he's in head first!"

Repairing.

"Shall we," he asked, "repair hence?"

"Here," she answered, simply, for her tire was already punctured.

In the meanwhile her kit comprised four caramels and a monkey wrench.—Detroit Journal.

THE GHOST OF BUCKSTOWN INN

By ARNOLD MAURICE ANDERSON.

Several travel-worn drummers sat in the lobby exchanging yarns. It was Rodney Green's turn, and he looked wise and began his tale.

"I don't claim, by any means, that the belief in ghosts is a general thing in Arkansas, but I do say that I had an experience out there a few years ago.

It was late in the fall, and I happened to be in the village of Bucktown, which desecrates a very limited portion of mother earth in the southern part of the state. The town is about as small and dirty a place as ever I saw, and the Buckstown Inn is not much above the general character of the place. The region is inhabited by natives who still cling to all sorts of foolish superstitions. The inn, in the ante-bellum days, was kept by one who was said to be the meanest and most crabbed of mortals. The old demon was as miserly as he was mean, and all his narrow life he hoarded his filthy lucre with fiendish greed. Report had it also that he had even murdered his patrons in their beds for their money. What the facts actually were I don't know but even to this day the old inn is held in suspicion. A lingering effect of former horrors still clouds its memory.

The present proprietor, Bunk Watson—his real name is Bunker, I believe—is an altogether different sort of chap—a Southern type, in fact—one of those shiftless, heedless, happy-go-lucky mortals who loves strong whiskey and who chews an enormous quid of black tobacco and smokes a corncob pipe at the same time.

When the former keeper "shuffled off" his property fell to a distant relative in the person of the present keeper, who, with his family, immediately moved in from a neighboring hamlet and took possession. It was well known that the old proprietor had accumulated considerable wealth during his sojourn among the living, but all efforts to discover any treasure upon the premises had failed, and now the idea of ever finding it was practically given up. As far as Bunk was concerned, the matter troubled him little. He had a hard-working wife who ran things the best she could under the circumstances and saw that his meals were forthcoming at their respective intervals. What more could he wish? Why should he care if there was a treasure buried upon his place? Indeed, it would have been a sore puzzle for him to know what to do with a fortune, unless, perhaps, his wife came to his aid.

Among other stories that hovered in the history of the Buckstown Inn was one which involved a ghost. In the room where the former keeper had died peculiar noises were heard at unearthly hours, sighing, moaning and, in fact, all the other indications which point to the existence of ghosts were said to be present. On account of this the chamber had long since been abandoned.

I listened with keen interest to the wonderful tales about the haunted room and then suddenly resolved to investigate—to sleep in that chamber that very night and see for myself all that was to be seen. I told Bunk of my purpose. He shook his head, shrugged his shoulders, but instead of warning me and offering a flood of protests as I expected, he merely took his pipe from his mouth, let fly a quart or so of yellowish juice from between a pair of brown-stained lips and, opening one corner of his wide mouth, lazily called out, "Jane." His wife appeared and he intimated that I should settle the matter with the "old woman." The prospect of a fee persuaded the wife and off she went to arrange for my bed in that ill-fated room.

At 9 o'clock that evening I bid the family good night, took my candle, ascended the rickety stairs and entered the chamber of horrors. The atmosphere was heavy and had a peculiar odor that was not at all pleasing. However, I latched the door and was soon in bed. Having propped myself up with pillows I was prepared to await the coming of the ghost.

Overhead the dusty rafters, which once had experienced the sensation of being whitewashed, but which were now a dirty yellowish color, were hung with a fantastic array of cobwebs. The flickering light of the candle reflected upon the walls and against the ceiling a myriad of grotesque shapes, and with this effect being continually disturbed by the swaying cobwebs, the whole caused the room to appear rather ghostly after all, and especially so to an imaginative mind.

I waited and waited for hours it seemed but still no ghost. Perhaps it was afraid of my candle light, so I blew it out. No sooner had I done this and settled back in bed again than a white hand appeared through the door, then a whole figure—at last the ghost had come, a white and sheeted ghost!

It had come right through the door, although it was locked, and now it advanced toward the bed. Raising its long, white arm, it pointed a bony finger at me, and then in a hollow voice commanded: "Come with me!" Thereupon it turned to the door, while instantly I jumped out of bed to follow. Some unseen power compelled me to obey. The door flew open and the ghost led me down the stairs, through long halls into the cellar, through mysterious underground corridors, upstairs again, in and out rooms which I never dreamed were to be found in that old rambling inn. Finally, through a small door in the rear, we left the house. I was in my sleeping garments, but no matter. I had to follow.

The white form, with a slow and measured tread and as silent as death, led the way into the orchard. There, under a tree at the farther end, it pointed to the ground, and in the same ghostly tones before used, said:

"Here you will find a great treasure buried."

The ghost then disappeared and I saw it no more. I stood dazed and trembling. Upon recovering my wits I started to dig, but the chill of the night air and the scantiness of my night robes made such labor impracticable. So I decided to leave some mark to identify the place and come again at daybreak. I reached up and broke off a limb. Overcome with my night exertions, I slept the next morning until a loud rapping on my door and a croaking voice warned me that it was noon.

I had intended to leave Bucktown Inn that day, but, prompted by curiosity and anxious to investigate, I unpacked my gripsack for a comfortable stay.

You must understand that this was my first experience with a ghost and I feared I might never see another.

At breakfast my landlady waited on me in silence, though once I detected her eyes following me with a peculiar expression. She wanted to ask me how I enjoyed the night, but I would not gratify her by volunteering a word.

My host was more outspoken.

"Reckon ye didn't get much sleep," said he, with a queer smile.

"Did you hear anything," I asked.

"Well, I did, ye-es," he said, with a drawl. "But ye didn't disturb me any. I knew ye'd hev trouble when ye went in thet room ter sleep."

That afternoon I slipped out to the tree. But to my amazement, I found that the twig I had broken from the branches was gone. Finally I found under the lower truck of an apple tree an open place from which a small branch had evidently been wrested. But on looking further, I discovered that every apple tree in the orchard had been similarly disfigured.

"More mysterious than ever," I said, "but to-night shall decide."

That night I pleaded weariness, which no one seemed inclined to question, and sought my couch earlier.

"Goin' ter try it again?" asked my host.

"Yes, and I'll stay all winter, but what I'll get even with that ghost," I said.

That night I kept the candle burning until midnight, then I blew it out.

Instantly the room was flooded with a soft light, and at the foot of the bed stood my ghost, the identical ghost of last night.

Again the bony finger beckoned and a sepulchural voice whispered "Follow me!" I sprang from the bed, but the figure darted ahead of me. It flew through the doorway and own the stairs, and I after it. At the foot of the staircase an unseen hand reached forward and caught my foot and I fell sprawling headlong.

But in a second I was on my feet and pursuing the ghost. It had gained on me a few yards, but I was quicker, and just as we reached the outside door I nearly touched its robes. They sent a chill through my frame and I nearly gave up the pursuit.

As it passed through the doorway it turned and gave me one look, and I caught the same malignant light in its eyes that I remembered from the night before.

In the open orchard I felt sure I could catch it.

But my ghost had no intention of allowing me any such an opportunity. To my disgust it darted backward and into the house, slamming the door in my face.

In a frenzy of fear and chagrin I threw myself against the oaken door with such force that its rusty old hinges yielded and I landed in the big front room of the inn just in time to see the white skirts of the ghost flit up the stairs.

Upstairs I flew after it and into an old chamber. There, huddled in a corner, I saw it. In the minute's delay it had secured a lighted candle and, as I entered, it advanced to daunt me with bony arm upraised to great height.

"Caught!" I cried, throwing my arms around the figure. And I have made the acquaintance of a real live ghost.

The white robes fell and I saw revealed my hostess of Bucktown Inn.

Next morning when I threatened to call the police she confessed to me that she masqueraded as a ghost to draw visitors to the out-of-the-way old place, and that she found its tales of being haunted highly profitable to her.

"CAUGHT!"

Troubles Never Cease.

"I earnestly recommend that a condition of peace attended by a cessation of sound, vocal and otherwise, be restored."

The large fat man said this in an absent-minded sort of way. He had been left to entertain the new baby while the nurse exchanged confidences with the girl next door. The brand new boy was having his first interview with his dad, and he had expressed his distrust and alarm so violently that he was getting blue in the face.

"I now perceive," said Grover, as he looked vainly for something that would do as a gag, "that there are worse things to have on your hands than a Congress."—Exchange.

Artistic Signs.

Ochre—But what makes you think he has no money?

Chrome—Why, didn't you hear him praise my painting?—Boston Transcript.

PAT'S STYLE IN EGGS.

A State street restaurant carries beside the doorway a board which says that three eggs will be served "in any style" for 10c, says the Chicago Record.

It is said that a man bringing with him a trace of Irish brogue came into the

"THREE EGGS FOR TEN CENTS!"

place the other day and called the waiter over to him.

"Three eggs for 10 cents?" he asked.

"That's right."

"Any style?"

"Any style."

"Well, I'll have one fried, one boiled and one poached, and hurry them up."

AN INTELLIGENT DOG.

Now that the hunting season is at its full height and stories of the field and gun are on almost everybody's tongue, the Lansing (Mich.) Republican says it may be pardoned for now and then referring to the subject. The other evening a party of gentlemen were seated behind the desk at the Downey enjoying a cigar and admiring C. P. D.'s new shooting iron, and, of course, everybody had a hunting story to tell. Geo. R. Ferguson, the well-known wholesale vender of mince meat and sugar, chipped in:

"I don't go hunting myself," stated George, "but I know a good dog when I see one, and a little incident that came under my observation the other day convinced me that dogs are about as near human as anything can be that travels on four legs. I was down at Williamston, and Al See invited me to take a little walk with him, to see his pointer dog work. Al has both a 10 and a 12 gauge gun, and he put on his trappings and we started out, but the dog wouldn't follow. He was coaxed, petted and licked, but not an inch would he budge. He just lay down in the yard and refused to stir. Finally Al discovered he had made a mistake and put 10-gauge shells in his pocket for his 12-gauge gun. Just as soon as the exchange was made that dog trotted along as contentedly as though he was going to a funeral. Talk about the intelligence of dogs, I guess he's pretty fair.

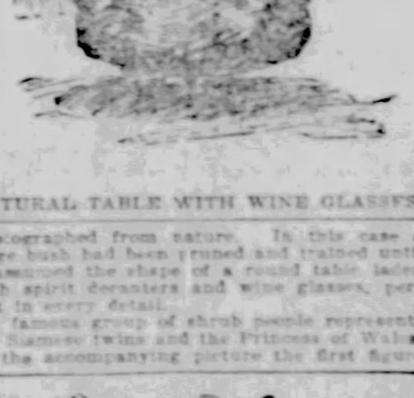
"We walked along for a time, when all of a sudden, in a barren field, with nothing in sight but a man picking up stones, that dog straightened out and as a wedge, on a dead point, and refused to move, except as the strange man moved. Finally it struck Al to ask the fellow his name. 'Why, Partridge,' was the reply. That settled it. We shot the man and moved on. Now, what do you think of that for intel—"

HIS NAME WAS PARTRIDGE.

But the rest of the sentence was lost in the general stampede for the tray of high-balls that arrived at that moment, and in the confusion George made his escape.

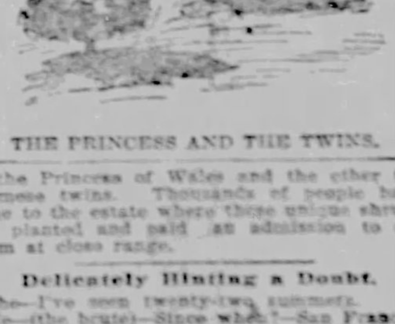
PECULIAR BRITISH PLANTS

Perhaps the most curious fad pursued by the wealthy land-owners of England is the training of various vines and shrubs to represent human figures and pieces of household furniture, like chairs and tables. The extent to which this foolish gardening is carried is shown in the illustration, which was photographed from nature. In this case a large bush had been pruned and trained until it assumed the shape of a round table laden with spirit decanters and wine glasses, perfect in every detail.



NATURAL TABLE WITH WINE GLASSES.

A famous group of shrub people represent the Siamese twins and the Princess of Wales. In the accompanying picture the first figure is the Princess of Wales and the other the Siamese twins. Thousands of people have gone to the estate where these unique shrubs are planted and paid an admission to see them at close range.



THE PRINCESS AND THE TWINS.

Delicately Hinting a Doubt.

She—I've seen twenty-two summers.

He—(the brute)—Since when?—San Francisco Examiner.

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

That Indian Reservation.

D. P., Roswell, Idaho, has our thanks for the following:

"Seeing that an inquiry made quite a while ago in the Question Bureau, in regard to an Indian reservation remains unanswered, I will try to give a little information, as I was a vaquero on that reserve from 1890 to 1896, and know every foot of it. It is in southeastern Idaho, with Blackfoot river as the northern boundary, and Port Neuf river as part of the southern; Blackfoot City in the north, Pocatello in the centre and McCammon on the south. It is nearly square, something like 40 miles to a side. If I am correctly informed by letters from there, only the southern half has been bought from the Indians to be opened, the United States paying $4 per acre. Whether Uncle Sam will sell it for the same or take $1.25 and a homestead entry, or let it be free homesteaded, I do not know.

"There is not much desirable land in the half purchased, mostly mountainous, with narrow valleys. There is some cultivable land on the eastern part of it, at the head of Port Neuf river, a little on 'benches' on either side of the same river, between McCammon and Pocatello, and some sage plain just below where Port Neuf canon opens out on Snake river valley, close to Pocatello. The last mentioned tract is the most considerable piece of agricultural land, but it will take capital to get water for irrigation. It extends from about even with Pocatello westward, past the reserve limit about 16 or 17 miles, but is cut in two, east and west, by the new line forming the reservation boundary. It is the best kind of farming land, covered with black sage (Mormon hickory), which is easily cleared off. There is another valley in the west end, Bannock Creek, but some of the Indians have taken severalty lands enough there to use all the water in the creek. There are Indian farms all over the reserve, wherever the land is easy to get water on, and I do not think the government will interfere with their possession.

"I think there will be some copper mines opened up directly the land is available, as there are good prospects about 15 miles south of Pocatello. The Snake river side is what I would throw open, as there is a lot of us watching to get on to the bars of auriferous gravel on the reservation side of that stream, when the chance comes. Ft. Hall bottoms are known to be rich with flour gold, but Uncle Sam allows no monkeying with Indian land."

The "Lone Tree."

The Lafayette, Ind., Call publishes the following:

"A writer who signs a communication in the Toledo Blade as 'A. B. L., Flora, Ind.,' wants to know the history of the 'lone tree' which stands in the centre of the Riverside road leading from West Lafayette to Battle Ground. The Evening Call is able to give the questioner the desired information, as well as some facts connected with the construction of the road. The tree was left standing where it now is by the express request of the late Wm. F. Reynolds, who donated the ground in front of his large tract of timber land, on the west side of the road, for the highway. It was his request that the tree be allowed to stand as long as it was in a healthy condition, which it is up to this day, the road being divided and going around on each side of it. When the road was contemplated, a good many years ago, Mr. Reynolds organized a stock company with a capital stock of $9,000, of which only $5,000 was taken, and the road commenced, but before its entire completion the cost of the same had run up to $27,000. Finding the stockholders slow in paying up and refusing to be assessed for more money, Mr. Reynolds went down into his own pocket and had the road completed, and it is to-day perhaps the most important thoroughfare leading out of the city. After its completion Mr. Reynolds brought suit against the other stockholders to compel them to pay their share of construction and obtained judgment against them. The road was afterwards sold to the county for the sum of $5,000, and became a free road. This lone tree has another feature of interest, in that there was supposed to have been a stolen treasure secreted beneath its roots, or nearby, and many attempts were made to find it by digging until the tree came near dying. One person in his anxiety to find the treasure, and his disappointment at failure, was rendered insane, and he died recently at the asylum at Indianapolis."

Mormon Doctrines.

"Will you kindly tell me something about the doctrines of the Mormon church? Some of their elders are preaching here and their teaching is very much the same as other churches; and we would like to learn as much about their peculiar doctrines as we can. They tell us that polygamy never was taught in their churches in Utah. Have we any reason to believe that polygamy is still practised by them?"—T. A. K., Elgin, Tenn.

The elders are not teaching the real doctrines of Mormonism, that is evident. The Mormon church teaches that there are many gods, and that eminent saints become gods in heaven, and rise one above another in power and glory to infinity. Joseph Smith is now the god of this generation. His superior god is Jesus, whose superior god and father is Adam. Above Adam is Jehovah, and above Jehovah is Elohim. All these gods have wives, and they all rule their own descendants, who are constantly increasing in number and dominion. The glory of a saint when he becomes a god depends in some degree on the number of his wives and children, and therefore polygamy is inculcated and women are "sealed" as wives to saints here on earth to augment the latter's power in heaven. The gods are in the form of men, and they are the fathers of the souls of men in this world.

The ten commandments, together with the pretended revelation given to Joseph Smith on Feb. 27, 1833, which is called "A Word of Wisdom," are considered the rule of life. Baptism for the dead is practiced. This summary of the real doctrines of the church we find in the American Cyclopedia. In that work, the doctrines of each church have been prepared by persons believing them; therefore this summary is, we think, to be considered correct. We have no means of knowing whether polygamy is still practised by them, in defiance of law, but have been, time and again, informed that it is, in secret.

Oily Hair.

"Please tell me through the Question Bureau, a remedy for excessively oily hair. I wash it ofaen in borax and water, but without help."—G. C., Columbus, Ind.

The follicles of the scalp secrete the oil, and we do not think there is any method whereby an excessive secretion can be prevented. Washing the head, combing and brushing the hair well, tend to keep it down. If any reader knows a remedy (not a patent medicine) we will be glad to publish it.

The Magnetic Needle.

"Why is it that the magnetic needle in a compass always points north and south?"—G. W. L., Ellejoy, Tenn.

When two magnetized bars of steel are brought together, and free to move, they will arrange themselves parallel to each other, with the north pole of one and south pole of the other together, and vice versa. The action of the compass needle is analogous to this. It acts as if there were a huge magnet in the earth, with one pole at the north magnetic pole, the other at the south magnetic pole. But the underlying reason, why magnets range themselves parallel to each other, is not known. It is a fact, and science so accepts it.

"What do you mean by a person's 'native land?' and is a child born in the United States of Norwegian parents, a native of Norway or of the United States? Is he a Norwegian or an American, or both?"—M. J. H., Oregon, Wis.

The word "native" is derived from the Latin word "natus," which means "born," and hence "native land" means the land in which one is born. A child born in the United States of foreign parents is a native of the United States. He is only of Norwegian descent, not a native of Norway.

Talmage's Creed.

"In answering a question you said Rev. Dr. Talmage is a Presbyterian. Here in the West he is known as a Congregationalist. Please explain the difference between the two denominations."—E. R., Brandon, Wis.

Dr. Talmage is a Presbyterian. The Congregational church in the United States holds in general that system of theology which was maintained by St. Augustine and John Calvin, and which has been explained, advocated and amended by the theologians of New England. In brief, they are the lineal descendants of the Puritans. The difference between them and the Presbyterians is largely one of methods of church government.

The 'Pied Piper."

"Please send some account of the 'Pied Piper of Hamelin,' how the legend originated, and any items of interest."—Subscriber, Ferguson, Mo.

Hameln is a town of Prussia, 24 miles southwest of the city of Hanover, on the Hamel and Weser rivers, with a population of about 10,000. There is a legend that a piper, dressed in variegated (or "pied") colors, offered to clear the town of the rats by which it was infested, for a specified sum of money, which the authorities agreed to pay. The rats all followed him as he piped, and were drowned in the Weser. The authorities then refused to pay. On June 26, 1824, the feast of Saints John and Paul, he reappeared in the streets playing his pipes and all the children, charmed by his music, followed him into a cavern which opened in a mountain, and were never afterwards heard from. For a long time the town dated its public documents from this calamity. Robert Browning's poem tells the story most musically. What the foundation for this extraordinary legend could be, we have no means of judging. Of one thing we may be certain—that it never occurred. Browning spells the name of the town "Hamelin," but the correct spelling is "Hameln."

One's Native Land.

Miscellaneous.

O. F. H., Warrensburg, Mo.: We have not the data to answer.

J. B., Deland, Cal.: We have never seen nor heard of the poem.

"X. Y. Z.," Leavittsville, O.: We are sorry to say we have not the facts.

Craig: You sent neither name nor postoffice address. Observe the rules, please.

C. R., Tranquility, N. Y.: We would be glad, but we can find no sketch of her life.

F. T., Sterling, Kan.: The proper finger for the engagement ring is the third finger of the left hand.

R. S., Patterson's Depot, W. Va.: Send your full name, as required by rules above, and we will gladly answer.

J. F., Horton Bay, Mich.: Address Superintendent of Life-Saving Service, Ninth District, Buffalo, N. Y.; or, Tenth District, Sand Beach, Mich.; or, Eleventh District, Grand Haven, Mich.

D. E. K., Fulton, Kan.: The alleged record, said to have been written by Pilate, from his banishment, concerning Jesus, is a well-known document. It has no historical value, being one of the many "pious forgeries" which were so common in the third, fourth and fifth centuries.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

I have received from the publishers, S. S. McClure, the advance sheets of Anthony Hope's new story, which is to begin in McClure's magazine in December. It is entitled Rupert of Hentzau. From the Memoirs of Fritz Von Tarlenheim. It is a sequel to the Prisoner of Zenda, which won for the author such a name in literature, but those who have not read that novel, will, we are told, enjoy the later one from the beginning.

ANTHONY HOPE HAWKINS.

This writer is an Oxford man, 34 years old, who began life as a lawyer, and in 1892 made a vigorous but unsuccessful canvass for a Liberal seat in parliament. The Prisoner of Zenda was his fourth or fifth book, but it was the one which made him known to the world. Other works are The God in the Car; Chronicles of Count Antonio; The Heart of the Princess Osra, etc.

The story has been illustrated by a personal friend of the author, Mr. Charles Dana Gibson, whose work always speaks for itself.

The keynote of the story, The Revolt of a Daughter, by Mrs. Ellen Olney Kirk, is the absolute impossibility of one person's living the life of another, or of dictating how that other's life shall be lived even if there be the most tender relationship of parent and child. The beautiful Constance, the admired of all, who has no thought of love for any other than Kitty, her daughter, finally finds herself placed in antagonism with the latter, because she has endeavored to shape her life. Houghton, Mifflin & Company, Boston, are the publishers.

"It is inevitable that a serious person should some time or other be perplexed by the ordering of Providence and ask bitter questions," writes Ian Maclaren in the opening chapter of The Potter's Wheel, a little book of his essays recently brought out by Dodd, Mead & Co., of New York. Proceeding from this statement, which will be at once accepted as a true one, he endeavors to show how these questions may be answered.

What a Young Boy Ought to Know, is one of those admirable books belonging to the Self and Sex series brought out by the Vir Publishing company, of Philadelphia. The author, Rev. Sylvanus Stall, has told in plain, simple language, which is yet full of delicacy, those things which, if understood by the boy who is just entering life, would prevent the sins and sorrows and failures which come, and often not from natural tendencies to vice, but through ignorance, which is by no means innocence.

The fruit of careful study is garnered in a charming manner in the volume entitled The Madonna in Art, recently issued by L. C. Page & Co., of Boston. Madonna art as a revelation of motherhood, is the subject of the volume. Historical and legendary incidents in the life of Mary are not given, but the author, Estelle M. Hurll, has selected from paintings only the idealized and devotional pictures of the mother and babe, which she has classified in five groups, arranged in the order of historical development.

The first poem in the volume issued by the Henry T. Coates & Co., Philadelphia, entitled Songs of Flying Hours, by Dr. Edward Willard Watson, closes with this stanza:

"These are the themes, wider than rolling earth,
That fill the soul with music till the pen
Strives to portray, in all their grief and mirth,
The many things that make the lives of men;
And some true poem grows, like a little flower,
And throbs in beauty for a passing hour."

This well describes the poems contained in this pretty volume.

The God Yutzo, by Lord Gilhooley, is one of the most striking books (externally) of the year and of the age. It is bound in sackcloth, lots of it, an inch and a quarter of the fabric overhanging the edges of the boards of the cover, and pinked all round, too. It is printed in brown ink on old English type large enough to be read a rod away from the eye. The book is published by Frederick A. Stokes & Company, New York.

The Drones Must Die is the ponderous and menacing title, and Dr. Max Nordau, the imposing name of the author of a new novel that G. W. Dillingham & Co. have recently given to the public. Max Nordau, the author of Degeneration! The sum of it all is that men and women who are earnest, industrious and content in the sphere appointed them, and young men and young women who follow in their footsteps, will get most enjoyment out of living; the bread they eat will be that of their own earning, the sweetness of life will come of the honey of their own making and storing. On the other hand, the drones who rob from the stores of the industrious, may, and indeed too often do, build palaces, fill them with gold and glitter, and for a time live painted lives that in the eyes of the poor are all but Heaven, in the souls of the dwellers therein all but hell. The discovery is not Nordau's, the moral not pointed here for the first time, but the tale of which it forms the theme is indeed his own and the work of a master-hand.

The second volume of Prof. Moses Coit Tyler's Literary History of The American Revolution has just been issued by the publishers, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. The title of this work seems to have puzzled not a few persons, and since the review of the first volume in these columns, the writer has been asked a number of times to explain the difference between this new work and that one by the same author published some twenty years ago. The title of the older work is, The History of American Literature During The Colonial Times, and it will be noticed that while perfectly clear in its meaning, it is so similar in sound to the title of the new work as to quite confuse one who has not yet made himself acquainted with the books themselves.

Robert Louis Stevenson's posthumous work, ended as a magazine serial, is now issued in book form by Charles Scribner's Sons. It makes a volume of more than four hundred pages, divided into thirty-six chapters. It will be a pleasing assurance to readers to learn, before taking up the book, that Stevenson himself had completed thirty chapters, and left an outline and notes for the remaining six, and that not only was the unfinished portion left in very skillful hands, but that the book as it appears is almost wholly Stevenson's own.

St. Ives is a story of adventure, exciting and thrilling in many parts, but so constantly tinged with humor as to make it, after all, almost a rollicking story.

The Worst Boy in the School is the taking title of an attractively bound little book whose author is Michael J. A. McCaffery, L.L. D. The author is a well known lawyer in New York city, who has long been identified with school and educational interests, and his poem is founded on an actual incident that took place in one of the grammar schools of the city. The book is published by G. W. Dillingham & Co., New York.

Bret Harte begins his story of Three Partners in this way: "The sun was going down on the Black Spur range. The red light it had kindled there was still eating its way along the serried crest, showing through gaps in the ranks of pines, etching out the interstices of broken boughs, fading away and then flashing suddenly out again like sparks in burnt up paper. Then the night wind swept down the whole mountain side, and began its usual struggle with the shadows upclimbing from the valley, only to lose itself, in the end and be absorbed in the all conquering darkness."

There is always a fascination about Mr. Harte's description of life in California in the early times, and of that of the more primitive conditions of to-day in some portions of the state. Three Partners comes from the press of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., of Boston.

A story that is full of beauty and pathos and that means much of wonderful heroism and self-sacrifice is the first in a volume of stories entitled Seven on the Highway, written by Blanche Willis Howard. This one, named Marigold Michel, from the principal character, is full of sweetness and pathos. It tells the not impossible story of a great hearted young man who assumed the guilt of the wrong doing of an elder brother and died to the world in his proper person, but lived as a fool "with cap and bells," a harmless fellow in the eyes of those about him and yet one who was constantly challenging attention and surprise at the incongruities apparent.

In the second story, No Continuing City, is the same sweetness and beauty of character shown in Mab. Others in the volume are Thalatta; Puss-in-Boots; The Youth That Never Smiled; The Majesty of the Law, and All Sails Spread for Monkeyland. It would make a fine gift book to young people because of its purity and wholesomeness. It comes from Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

American Comprehensive Arithmetic, by M. A. Bailey, professor of mathematics in Kansas State Normal School, is one of the new books issued by the American Book Company, Chicago.

This book is designed to meet the requirements of schools for a "one-book" or complete arithmetic. It possesses many new and striking features which distinguish it from ordinary arithmetics, teaching arithmetic as it is applied in business and used in the every-day affairs of life.

Ole Mammy's Torment is an amusing little story of a pickanniny who heard some one say to his grandmammy, "Troubles is seasonin', Sis, Sheba," and starts in young to furnish more "seasonin'" than the poor old soul knows what to do with. The book is written by Annie Fellows Johnston and illustrated by Mary G. Johnston and Amy M. Sacker. Published by L. C. Page & Co., Boston.

At The Siege of Quebeck, by James Otis, and published by the Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia, is a late addition to books for boys. One boy who has read it remarks that there is not much about the Siege of Quebec in it, as the most of the book is taken up with a description of the march up the Kenebec river and the attempts of the paid guides to kill two lads who had been taken up by the commander of the expedition for their knowledge of the wild region to be traversed. This incurred the hatred of the regular guides, and the expedition seems more concerned with the affairs of these two boys than with the taking of Quebec.

Aaron in the Wildwoods is a new work from the hands of Joel Chandler Harris and illustrated by Oliver Herford. It is a story of plantation life in middle Georgia in days of slavery; of the great canebrake, an escaped slave and his companions in exile; and of the mystery and superstition felt by the negroes of the region roundabout. It is a wierd tale of a strange being who talks with animals and they with him, warning him of approaching danger and saving him from capture. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. publishers, Boston.

The Hall of Shells, by Mrs. A. S. Hardy, is a most interesting and charming addition to Appleton's Home Reading series. It is a study of shells, but like a book in beautiful covers, or a picture in a beautiful frame, the author has enhanced a naturaly charming subject by putting it in the form of a story, delightful personages bending over these treasures of the ocean and discussing htem. Besides this, the work is artistically and beautifully illustrated with numerous plates and etchings, and chapters introduced by exquisite poetical quotations. The book will be a treasure in every household it enters. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

Self Cultivation in English is a little work by the distinguished scholar, George Herbert Palmer, professor of philosophy in Harvard College. The study of English, according to Professor Palmer, has four aims: "the mastery of our language as a science, as a history, as a joy and as a tool." In his essay he treats of it as a tool, and intends his words to serve as a sort of introduction to the many books on rhetoric already existing. It is a most inspiring little manual and ought to be in the hands of every student and writer. T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York.

Notary's and Conveyancer's Manual, by Florien Giaque, appears in a second edition, largely rewritten and enlarged, from the press of The Robert Clarke Co., Cincinnati, O. It is for the use of mayors, justices, commissioners, notaries and conveyancers. These officers, as well as attorneys and others, often want to know how to execute deeds, mortgages, and similar instruments, take acknowledgments, depositions, etc., for use in other states, as well as in their own. This books tells them. It covers the ground.

Practical Hints for Young Writers, Readers and Book-Buyers, by Frederick Lawrence Knowles is quite fully described in its title. It does not attempt to teach the art of writing. The author himself declares that impossible, but believes much help can be given by showing the learner how to avoid difficulties. This manual is in no sense a substitute for fuller treaties on rhetoric, composition or literature. It is a book of hints, in which may be found the substance of many exhaustive text-books thrown into a few phrases or focused almost to a point. Published by L. C. Page & Co., Boston.

A new edition of William H. Rideing's most interesting book of The Boyhood of Living Authors, is brought out by Thomas Y. Crowell & Company, New York. In the preface it is explained that several of the authors, having passed away since the first book was written, the adjective in the title is changed to famous. New chapters on Robert Louis Stevenson and Rudyard Kipling have been substituted for some less interesting, and autographs of the authors in the form of original letters or extracts, have been added.

Ouida has contributed her mite toward the solution of one of the great problems in sociology—what to do with the hoards of wealth accumulated by the rich, to the envy and misery of the laboring classes from whom they have stolen it. The title of the book is An Altruist, published by F. Tennyson Neely in his Prismatic Library series. On the outside the book is notably artistic and attractive. As for the contents, Ouida has simply overreached. Instead of an argument for or against the socialistic distribution of wealth, she has succeeded only in making a distorted picture of a wealthy and highly connected young Englishman who preached the doctrine, and who, in order to show himself in earnest and consistent, engaged himself to marry the daughter of a washerwoman and refused to accept an immense fortune left him by a relative.

Certain Accepted Heroes and Other Essays, published by Harper & Brothers, is the title given to certain writings of Henry Cabot Lodge, upon literary, biographical and political subjects. The heroes of Homer's Iliad are the ones referred to in the title of the book. Other topics are: A Defense of King Richard III.; Shakespeare's Americanisms; Eulogy on Dr. Holmes; Liberal Education; Home and History of The Cabots; English Elections compared with American; and Our Foreign Policy.

Snow Balling.

About one young woman in ten nowadays would dare to run out bare headed and bare handed and frolic and snow ball in midwinter. They have to be muffled up like hot-house flowers before they dare venture out in severe weather, and even then would shudder at the thought of rollicking in the snow as their grandmothers did.

The trouble lies in the fact that too few women enjoy perfect health and strength of the special womanly organism. A woman who is not well and strong locally cannot enjoy good general health. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures all weakness and disease of the delicate and important organs concerned in wifehood and motherhood. It is the most perfect and scientific remedy ever devised for the peculiar ailments of women. It restores womanly power, strength and virility. It tones and builds up the nerves which have been shattered by suffering and disease. It corrects all irregularities and derangements and stops exhausting drains. It restores weak, nervous invalids to perfect health. It is intended for this one class of disorders and is good for no other. It is the discovery of Dr. R. V. Pierce, for thirty years chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y. No other known medicine can take its place.

"I have been troubled with female weakness that my physician called catarrh of the womb," writes Miss Tean Conner, of Catfish, Clarion Co., Pa. "I doctored for it and did not get better. At last I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I got better right along and when I had taken four bottles was cured. I recommended the 'Favorite Prescription' to a friend of mine. She has been using it and thinks it is wonderful."

Constipation is a little illness that if neglected builds a big one. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation. One little "Pellet" is a gentle laxative and two a mild cathartic. They never gripe.

Was Never Well

But Hood's Sarsaparilla Has Given Her Permanent Health.

"I was a pale, puny, sickly woman, weighing less than 90 pounds. I was never well. I had female troubles and a bad throat trouble. I came across an advertisement of Hood's Sarsaparilla and had faith in the medicine at once. I began taking it and soon felt better. I kept on until I was cured. I now weigh 103 pounds, and never have any sickness Hood's Sarsaparilla will not cure. My blood is pure, complexion good and face free from eruptions." MRS. LUNA FARNUM, Box 116, Hillsgrove, Rhode Island.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills are tasteless, mild, effective. All druggists. 25c.

MEN CURED FREE.

The Private Formula of a Noted Physician Sent Free to All Who Write.

WEAKENED MANKIND MAY NOW GRASP A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY.

Thousands of men will welcome the news that a most successful remedy has been found for sexual weakness, such as impotency, shrunken organs, nervous debility, lost manhood, night emissions premature discharge and all other results of self-abuse or excesses. It cures any case of the difficulty. Mr. H. C. Olds, who cured himself after many years' suffering, wants to let other men know about it. He will therefore send the receipt giving the various ingredients to be used, so that all men at a trifling expense can cure themselves. He sends the receipt free, and all the reader need do is to send his name and address, stating he is not writing out of curiosity, but wishes to give the remedy a trial, to Mr. H. C. Olds, Box 1798, Kalamazoo, Mich., requesting the free receipt as reported in the papers. It is a generous offer, and all men ought to be glad to have such an opportunity as this.

Why Consumptives Lose Flesh.

Extracts From Dr. Hunter's Lectures On the Progress of Medical Science in Lung Diseases.

The health and strength of the body depend on the perfection of the lungs. No quantity or quality of food can add one grain's weight to the flesh of the body beyond the power of the lungs to make new blood. The food may be good and the stomach digest it perfectly, and yet the patient lose flesh and strength from day to day.

Most people suppose appetite and digestion are all that are required to make patients hold their own, at least, but such is not the fact. The stomach has little to do with the making of new blood. It is a mill, that grinds, dissolves and separates the food eaten, forming from it a white fluid called chyle. Before the chyle can impart its nutritious elements to the body it must be carried by the lacteals to the lungs and be endowed with life and changed into blood. This change is what is meant by the term assimilation. It depends upon the size and perfect action of the lungs. It takes place in exact proportion to the volume of air we take in at a breath. A man having large lungs and full breathing is strong and fleshy because he assimilates a large quantity of food and makes it into blood. A man with small lungs and obstructed breathing, is weak and thin, because he can only assimilate a small quantity of food. Our weight is determined by the volume of air we habitually inspire at a breath. This exactly measures our blood making capacity. Poor food or bad digestion may reduce us below our standard weight, but no quantity or quality of food can ever make us rise above it.

The moment our lungs become diseased their capacity for air is lessened by the swelling of the lining of the tubes and the mucus secretion which obstructs them, and in exactly the same proportion their power to assimilate food is reduced. A loss of flesh and strength must follow. If the disease increases the breathing space in the lungs also lessens, and the waste of flesh and strength goes on more rapidly, and no food or dieting can prevent it.

This is a natural law of the human organism. It was first discovered by me, and is now fully recognized by the best minds in the profession as one of the most important discoveries of medical science of our age. I have studied and observed its operations in thousands of cases without one exception. It is a great scientific truth, vital to our being. It was stamped upon us a Divine Law by God when he "breathed into the nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."

In the glorious light of this revealed law of science how pitiable seems the ignorance and quackery of those who propose to cure consumption by tonics and diet, while the cause of the patient's weakness and wasting remains untouched in the lungs. The only way the body can be "built up" is to remove the disease that is wasting it, by a treatment applied to the lungs capable of restoring the breathing. Do that, and the lungs will quickly rebuild the wasted and enfeebled body. Fail to do it, no human means can save the patient's life.

(To be Continued.)

(Signed.) ROBERT HUNTER, M. D., 117 W. 45th street, New York. November 27, 1897.

NOTE.—Readers of The Blade who are interested in Dr. Hunter's views can obtain his books free by addressing him as above.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Wart on Pastern Joint.

A. C. O., Colorado: Tie a horsehair tightly around the wart. Then take of pure hog's lard 1 part and common salt ¾ part, and rub the wart over and around it. It must be rubbed well in. Repeat the application two or three times. The editor wishes to say here that he will not answer any inquiry hereafter that has not the full name and address of the writer. The full name nor locality is not used in answers, but it is necessary that the name and locality of the writer be known, as a matter of good faith.

Hay in the Stack.

R. B. B., Colorado: About 500 cubic feet of well-settled hay, or about 700 of new-mown hay, will make a ton. To estimate amount of hay in a mow, ten cubic yards of meadow hay weigh a ton. When the hay is taken out of old stacks, eight or nine yards will make a ton. Eleven or twelve yards of clover, when in stack or mow, make a ton.

One of His Eyes Sore.

J. R., Kansas: Your rooster is suffering from indigestion and roup. Give him a full teaspoonful of castor oil, and if this does not start his bowels, repeat. Feed soft feed until the bowels are loosened, but be careful not to continue this too long. For the roup, put the rooster in a warm place, where there are no draughts of air, and rub his head and eyes with tepid water, in which there are a few drops of vinegar. Inject alum water into his nostrils. Remove the rooster from the other fowls, or they may all get the disease. Keep the poultry house dry and clean.

Spavin and Ringbone.

Subscriber, Baxter, Iowa:—Where there are outward blemishes in spavin the disease may be considered of a serious nature. A horse may have spavin without outward blemishes. Spavin is an inflamatory condition o fthe cartilaginous cushions which cover the articular surfaces, or points of union of each bone, or of the ligaments that surround the joints and bind the bones together. The lameness may be removed, but when the disease is once established, the elasticity mobility and functions of the joint are destroyed in proportion to the extent of the disease. A good remedy is: Bin-iodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 2 ozs.; mix. Shave off the hair, and rub the part once a day for four days with the mixture, washing off and drying well before each application. Warm water and soap should be used as a wash. Ringbone is the outcome of slipping, running, jumping, blows, kicks, etc. It is also hereditary. When first discovered, foment the part with hot water, and follow these with a cooling lotion. Cold vinegar will answer for this when the fever is all removed. Apply a blister composed of powdered cantharides, ¼ oz.; red iodide of mercury, 1 drachm; lard, 3 ozs. After the part blistered has healed repeat it. If this does not have the desired effect the firing iron must be used, running the lines up and down parallel with each other. Care must be taken not to draw the lines in the hollow of the pastern. This should be done by a qualified veterinary surgeon. When a blister is applied the animal should be tied so that he cannot get his mouth to the place for three or four hours.

Pork in Whisky Barrel.

J. F. S., Kentucky: —Yes, pork will keep well in a whisky barrel. Before putting the pork in the barrel, wash the barrel with hot water and wood ashes.

Making Cheese On a Small Scale.

J. A. B., Missouri: The editor does not know of any one who makes cheese on a small scale. If some one who does, will write to The Blade Farmstead, the address will be sent you.

Lost Three Heifers—Fed on Corn Stalks.

G. H. C., Iowa: The cattle you turned into the field of corn stalks no doubt died from the cornstalk disease. The United States government sent capable men to Nebraska to investigate and report upon the matter, but nothing definite, so far as the editor knows, resulted, nor was there a remedy suggested. Indigestion sets in, followed by delirium and coma. It is claimed that living organisms are found on the lower leaves of the corn. The diseased leaves become yellowish-green, then yellow, then wither away. Upon closer examination it will be seen that there are certain spots, more especially about the base of the leaf, which is closely wrapped around the stalk, having a different discoloration. These are brown, watery looking objects at first, then darker, and finally dead. Occasionally there are livid red spots and patches in the same situation. These affected spots vary in size from mere points to those of several inches across, often longer, in the direction of the veins of the leaf or leaf sheath (Burrill). The only remedy suggested, is to burn the stalks and leaves, and seed the field down to grass.

Scurfy Lumps on Top of Neck.

A. C L., Indiana: Rub unsalted lard on the part to loosen up the scurf, and afterward wash off with warm water and soap. Then apply vaseline with 1 drachm of oxide of zinc to the ounce. Do not overfeed the mare, but see that she gets the best of grooming. If there is a tendency to costiveness feed bran mashes until properly regulated.

Was on Corn-Stalk Pasture.

G. C., Kansas: Your cow no doubt died from the corn-stalk disease. The editor cannot suggest a remedy. See answer to G. H. C., Iowa. Any information regarding a remedy for this disease that may have been discovered by any of our Western friends in which locality the disease is most prevalent, will be gladly received by the editor for publication, as many cattle are dying of the disease.

Gathering on Left Fore Leg.

S. N. D., Oklahoma: As the lump on your mare's leg, on the inside, close to the body, has taken a callous form, you are advised to rub it well with iodine, ½ oz.; soap liniment, 6 ozs. If the lump "points," it should be opened, the pus squeezed out gently and then injected with chloride of zinc, 1 drachm, water 1 pint.

Yellow Urine in Horse.

C. M. F., Missouri: If you have been giving your horse diuretics stop them at once. Boil a pound of good, whole linseed in a gallon of water down to six pints, then pour this over good wheat bran, stir it well and feed it to the horse. After this for a few days give linseed tea. This is made by boiling a pound of whole linseed in two gallons of water down to 10 or 12 pints. Strain through muslin. Let it get cold and squeeze the juice of three lemons into it. Give 2 drachms sulphate of iron morning and evening for about five days. While this is being given do not neglect the linseed tea. The sheath may be foul, and should be washed out with warm water and castile soap in which a little vinegar is put.

Black Leg in Cattle.

G. L. C., Kansas: The name "black leg" is known by different names as black leg, black quarter, quarter ill, charbon, chancre a la langue, sang de rate, splenic apoplexy and broxy in sheep, murrain, etc. The group of diseases under these names is very virulent, malignant and contagious, and appears under different forms. It arises spontaneously in low, damp, rich pastures, and is a specific disease produced by bacilli. Cattle between the ages of 6 months and 4 years of age are the most susceptible. Sucking calves under 6 months are not attacked. It has the power of forming within itself a spore. Dry spores may be carried in the hay or other feed from the field, and the disease is communicated when eaten by susceptible animals. It has been assumed that cattle contract the disease mainly through wounds either of the skin, mouth, tongue or throat. The symptoms begin from one to three days after the infection has taken place with loss of appetite and of rumination, with dullness and debility and a high fever. The temperature may rise to 107 fahrenheit. To these may be added lameness or stiffness of one or more limbs, due to the swelling invariably accompanying the disease. The most important characteristic is the appearance of a tumor or swelling under the skin of the affected animal a few hours after the setting in of the constitutional symptoms. The tumor may be located on the thighs (hence the name "black leg," "black quarter"), the neck, the shoulders, the breast, the flanks or the rump, but never below the knee and the hock joint. The tumor is at first small and painful, but spreads very rapidly both in depth and extent. When it is stroked a peculiar cracking sound is heard under the skin, due to a collection of gas formed by the bacilli as they accumulate.

The disease is considered incurable when once fairly established. The Kansas experiment station has concluded that the best treatment is prevention, and that inoculation or vaccination with a prepared virus is the most effective. The virus is prepared as follows: The bruised looking flesh from the affected hind quarter of an animal which has died of the disease is cut into small bits, dried and pulverized. The powder is divided into equal parts, and weakened by heating. For the milder vaccine, heat 6 or 7 hours at a temperature of 200 degrees F. For the stronger kind heat the same length of time at 180 degrees F. Dissolve as completely as possible three or four grains of the weaker virus in water allowing it to stand for several hours, then filter and inject beneath the skin of the animal. Make the second injection in the same manner about one week after the first. Virus prepared in this way has been used extensively in Missouri and Nebraska, will apparently excellent results. Senator Harris, of Kansas, has used the following: Sulphur, 10 lbs.; saltpetre, 3 lbs.; copperas, 6 lbs.; air-slacked lime, 3 lbs. These ingredients are pulverized, thoroughly mixed, and 1 lb. given in every gallon of common salt.

Received.

Poultry Keeper Illustrated Quarterly, containing over 100 illustrations of poultry houses, incubators, brooders, nests, fences, roosts, trap devices, troughs, drinking fountains, warming appliances, coops, etc., Poultry Keeper Co., Parksburg, Pa. Price, 25c.

Bulletin 85, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio, Strawberries, culture, notes and variety tests. Also, Bulletin 86. The story of the Lives of a Butterfly and Moth.

Report of the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, 1897.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Fall or Spring Calves.

Answering an inquiry through the columns of the Breeders' Gazette, Prof. W. A. Henry, dean of the Wisconsin Agricultural College, says upon this subject:

"The advantage in favor of spring-dropping calves is that the cows are much surer breeders under such conditions. If calves must shift for themselves from the first, as they largely do on the great plains in the west and in some districts elsewhere, of course spring time is the proper season for calving.

"Where cows are cared for throughout the year by man, as here in the East, it seems to me there are many advantages in favor of the fall-dropped calf. A calf must at first rely largely upon the dam's milk, and in comfortable quarters it keeps on growing satisfactorily, no matter how cold the weather is outside. As it grows, the addition of oats, oil-meal, etc., to the ration comes in all right, and soon a bite of clover hay is appreciated. By spring the fourth stomach of the calf has developed sufficiently to hold considerable roughage, and when it goes to pasture it is large enough to make good use of the feed found there.

"The spring-born calf has a serious time of it during the first season, for its stomach can hold little roughage and perhaps utilize less. Flies drive it into the shade of fence corners, and it leads a miserable existence in its helplessness. All of this early period is passed over with but little trouble with the fall-dropped calf living in stable or shed.

"Another point of much importance to the dairyman: Cows which are fresh in the fall will give a good flow of milk during the whole winter when milk and its products command the highest prices. When spring comes, cows which have shrunken somewhat in the milk flow on dry feed will freshen up again on pasture and yield liberally. On the whole, I believe the dairy cow fresh in the fall will yield from 5 to 15 per cent more milk during the twelve months than the same cow when her calf is dropped in the spring."

A Rank Imitation.

Mrs. Graball—You're no true landlady!

Mrs. Hardwork—Why ain't I?

Mrs. Graball—I hain't never heard you say a word about having seen better days.—Exchange.

Bogus.

"Is Mabel talking French to the count?"

"Yes."

"Does he understand her?"

"Yes."

"Then he's a fraud. No Frenchman could understand that lingo of hers."—New York Journal.

A [illegible] Insinuation.

Daisy Pea[illegible]—Doesn't Jack [illegible] look terrible this morning?

Miss Le[illegible]—Yes. I refused him last night.

Daisy Pea[illegible]—Poor fellow! The surprise must have been a great blow to him.—New York Journal.

TO CU[illegible] A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxa[illegible] Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists re[illegible] the money if it fails to cure. 25c. The g[illegible] has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

$200.00 for CORRECT ANSWERS!

Most Unique Contest of the Age — $200.00 Paid for Correct Lists made by Supplying Missing Letters in Places of Dashes — No Lottery — Popular Plan of Education — Read All the Particulars.

In the United States four times as much money is expended for education as for the military. Brain is better than brawn. By our educational facilities we have become a great nation. We, the publishers of **Woman's World and Jenness Miller Monthly**, have done much toward the cause of education in many ways, but now we offer you an opportunity to display your knowledge and receive **most generous payment for a little study**. The object of this contest is to give an impetus to many dormant minds to awaken and think; also we expect by this competition of brains to extend the circulation of **Woman's World and Jenness Miller Monthly** to such a size that we shall be able to charge double the present rate for advertising in our columns. By this plan of increasing the number of subscriptions and receiving more money from advertisers of soaps, pianos, medicines, books, baking powders, jewelry, etc., we shall add $50,000 a year to our income, and with this mathematical deduction before us, we have decided to operate this most remarkable "missing letters" contest.

HERE'S WHAT YOU ARE TO DO.

There are thirty words in this schedule, from each of which letters have been omitted and their places have been **supplied by dashes.** To fill in the blank spaces and get the names properly you must have some knowledge of geography and history. **We want you to spell** out as many words as you can, then send to us with 25 cents to pay for a three months' subscription to WOMAN'S WORLD. **For correct lists we shall give $200.00** in cash. If more than one person sends a full, correct list, the money will be awarded to the fifty best in appearance. Also, if your list contains twenty or more correct words, we shall send you a beautiful **Egeria Diamond Scarf Pin** (for lady or gentleman), the regular price of which is **$2.25.** Therefore, by sending your list, you are positively certain of the $2.25 prize, and by being careful to send a correct list you have an opportunity of the **$200.00 cash award.** The distance that you may live from New York makes no difference. All have equal opportunity for winning.

PRIZES WILL BE SENT PROMPTLY.

Prizes will be honestly awarded and promptly sent. We publish the list of words to be studied out. **In making** your list of answers, be sure to give the number of each word:

1. -RA-I- A country of South America.
2. -A-I-I- Name of the largest body of water.
3. M-D--E--A-E-- A sea.
4. -M--O- A large river.
5. T-A--S Well known river of Europe.
6. S--AN-A- A city in one of the Southern States.
7. H-----X A city of Canada.
8. N-A-A-A Noted for display of water.
9. -E--E--E- One of the United States.
10. -A-RI- A city of Spain.
11. H-V--A A city on a well known island.
12. S-M-E- A well known old fort of the United States.
13. G--R-L-A- Greatest fortification in the world.
14. S-A-LE- A great explorer.
15. C-L-F---I- One of the United States.
16. B-SM--K A noted ruler.
17. --CTO-I- Another noted ruler.
18. P-R-U-A Country of Europe.
19. A-ST-A-I- A big island.
20. M--IN-E- Name of the most prominent American.
21. T--A- One of the United States.
22. J-F--R--N Once President of the United States.
23. -U--N A large lake.
24. E-E-S-N A noted poet.
25. C-R-A A foreign country, same size as Kansas.
26. B-R--O A large island.
27. W-M--S W-R-D Popular family magazine.
28. B-H-I-G A sea.
29. A-L-N-I- An ocean.
30. M-D-G-S-A- An island near Africa.

In sending your list of words, mention whether you want prize money sent by bank draft, money order or registered mail; we will send any way that winners require. The **Egeria Diamond** is a perfect imitation of a **Real Diamond** of large size. Wedefy experts to distinguish it from real except by microscopic test. In every respect it serves the purpose of a **Genuine Diamond of Purest Quality.** It is artistically mounted in a fine gold-plated pin, warranted to wear forever. This piece of jewelry will make a most desirable gift to a friend if you do not need it yourself. At present our supply of these gifts is limited, and if they are all gone when your set of answers comes in, **we shall send you $2.25** in money instead of the **Scarf or Shawl Pin,** so you shall either receive the piece of jewelry or the equivalent in cash, in addition to your participative interest in the **$200.00 cash prize. This entire offer is an honest one,** made by a responsible publishing house. We refer to **mercantile agencies** and **any bank** in New York. We will promptly refund money to you if you are dissatisfied. What more can we do? Now study, and exchange slight brain work for cash. With your list of answers **send 25 cents** to pay for three months' subscription to our **great family magazine, Woman's World.** If you have already subscribed, mention that fact in your letter, and we will extend your subscription from the time the present one expires. To avoid loss in sending silver, wrap money very carefully in paper before inclosing in your letter. Address

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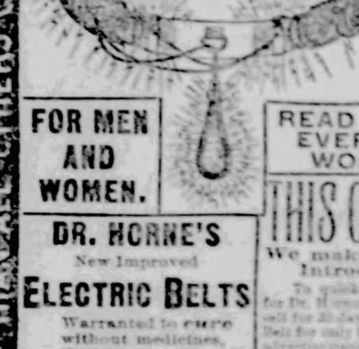

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IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD?

Are You Bearing a Secret Burden Because of Sexual Weakness.

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Every man suffering from the effects of youthful folly or later excesses restored to PERFECT HEALTH AND VIGOR. Premature Decline, Lost Manhood, Spermatorrhoea, Emissions, and all Diseases and Weaknesses of Man, from whatever cause, permanently and privately cured. Send the famous PHYSICIANS' INSTITUTE, of Chicago, a description of your trouble, with 6 cents for postage and packing, and our eminent physicians will prepare for you a course of medicine of such strength as your case may require. We send it FREE to introduce our remarkable method of treatment for Lost Manhood. No Quackery or C. O. D. Fraud. We have thousands of thankful letters that praise our honorable, liberal business methods, as well as our remarkable quick cures. We have cured cases that have baffled others. Failure impossible by our method.

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Thousands of weak men who have become discouraged after trying all other treatments, have been restored to Health and Perfect Manhood within a very short time after placing themselves in our hands. Procrastination is dangerous. Do not neglect your case. Write us today in strict confidence.

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(Sears, Roebuck & Co. are thoroughly reliable.—Editor.)

Talmage's Sermon.

RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS.

Dr. Talmage Discusses Their Mission and Usefulness.

Washington, Nov. 29.—In a previous discourse, Dr. Talmage, having shown the opportunities of the secular press, in this discourse speaks of the mission of religious newspapers. His text is: "Then I turned and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll."—Zachariah v. 1.

In a dream the prophet saw something rolled up advancing through the heavens. It contained a divine message. It moved swiftly, as on wings. It had much to do with the destiny of nations. But if you will look up you will see many flying rolls. They come with great speed and have messages for all the earth. The flying rolls of this century are the newspapers. They carry messages, human and divine. They will decide the destinies of the hemispheres.

There are in the United States about twenty thousand newspapers. The religious newspaper of which I am the editor, was born nineteen years ago, but born again seven years ago. In this brief time it has grown to about two hundred thousand circulation, and, by the ordinary rule of calculating the readers of a paper, it has about one million readers. Our country was blessed with many religious journals, edited by consecrated men, while their contributions were the ablest and best of all professions and occupations. Some of those journals for half a century had been dropping their benedictions upon the nation, and they live on, and will continue to live on until there will be no more use for their mission, the world itself having become a flying roll on the tempests of the last day, going out of existence. There will be no more use for such agencies when the world ceases, because in the spiritual state, we shall have such a velocity that we can gather for ourselves all the news of heaven, or, seeing some world in conflagration, may go ourselves in an instant to examine personally the scene of disaster.

Was there room for another religious journal in this land, already favored with the highest style of religious journalism? Oh, yes, if undenominational, plenty of room. Nothing can ever take the place of the denominational newspaper. When the millenium comes in, it will find as many denominations as there are now. People, according to their temperaments, will always prefer this or that form of church government, this or that style of worship. You might as well ask us all to live in one house as to ask us all to worship in one denomination, or to abolish the regiments of an army in order to make them one great host.

Each denomination must have its own journal, set apart especially to present the charities, explain the work, and forward the interests of that particular sect. The death of one denominational journal is a calamity to all the other denominations. A denominational journal had better be edited by some one who, rocked in the cradle of that church and ordained at her altars, having become venerable in her service, sits spectacled and wise, and with heart full of sacred memories, addresses the living of to-day. In the most sacred crypt of our memory stands the statue of the religious editors, Abel Stevens and Joshua Leavitt, and the royal family of the Primes—Irenaeus and Eusebius—while others linger on the banks of the Jordan, where they will not have long to wait for Elijah's chariot; and when they go up, if we still be sitting at our editorial desks, we will cry out in the memorable words: "My father, my father! the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof!"

But, then, there are great movements in which all denominations wish to join, and we want more undenominational newspapers to marshal, and advance, and inspire such movements. Yet such journals have a difficult task, because all Christian men, if they have behaved well in their denominations, for some reason prefer the one of their natural and spiritual nativity, and even looking off upon the general field and attempting wider work, will be apt to look at things through denominational preference and to treat them with a denominational twist. In the issuing of the religious journal whose seventh anniversary I preach, that difficulty has been met and overcome by the fact that its publisher is a Methodist and in its editorial rooms there are a Presbyterian, an Episcopalian, and a Congregationalist, and a line of denominational prejudice in editorial or reportorial column would run against immediate protest. Against John Wesley's free grace, or Calvin's eternal decrees, or Bishop McIlvaine's canonicals, or Dr. Dowling's baptistery, from year's end to year's end not a word is written or printed. On all these subjects we have convictions, but undenominational journalism is not the place to state them. He who tells all he knows and expresses all he thinks on all occasions and in all places, without reference to the proprieties, is a boor or a crank, and of no practical service, either to church or state.

Undenominational journalism is absolutely necessary to demonstrate the unity of the Christian world. Wide and desperate attempt is made to show that the religion of Jesus Christ is only a battle ground of sects, and the cry has been, "If you want us to accept your religion, agree, gentlemen, as to what the Christian religion really is. This denomination says a few drops of water dripping from the end of the fingers is baptism, and another demands the submergence of the entire body. This one prays with book, and that one makes extemporaneous utterance. The rector of one delivers the sermon in a gown, while the backwoods preacher of another sect addresses the people in his shirt sleeves. Some of your denominations have the majestic dominant in the service, and others, spontaneity. Some of you think that from all eternity some were predestinated to be saved, and that from all eternity others were doomed."

Now, it is the business of Young Men's Christian Associations and tract societies and Sunday school unions, and pronounced undenominational journals to show the falsity of the charge that we are fighting amongst ourselves, by gathering all Christian denominations on one platform or launching the united sentiment of all Christendom from one style of religious printing press.

Unity! Complete unity! Never was any other army on earth so thoroughly united under one flag, and inspired by one sentiment, and led by one commander, as is the church militant. Christ commands all the troops of all denominations of Christians, and they are going to shout together in the final victory when the whole world is redeemed.

But we have in all our denominations got tired of trying to make other people think as we do on all points. The heresy hunters in all denominations are nearly all dead, thank God, and we are learning that when men get wrong in their faith, instead of martyring them by arraignment, we do better to wait for the natural roll of years to remove them. Men die, but the truth lives on. We may not all agree as to the number of teeth in the jawbone with which Samson slew the Philistines, or agree as to what was the exact color of the foxes which he set on fire to burn up the corn shocks, but on the vitals of religion, we all agree.

If we could call into one great convention the 645,566 Episcopalians, the 1,420,905 Lutherans, the 1,460,346 Presbyterians, the 4,153,857 Baptists, the 5,653,289 Methodists, putting unto them the following questions, we would get unanimous answer in the affirmative: Do you believe in a God, good, holy, just, omnipotent? Do you believe in Jesus Christ as a Savior? Do you believe in the convicting, converting and sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost? Do you believe that the gospel is going to conquer all nations? If you should put these questions to those assembled millions on millions, while there would not be a solitary negative, there would be an aye! aye! aye! loud enough to make the foundations of the earth tremble and the arches of the heavens resound. Let there be platforms, let there be great occasions, let there be undenominational printing presses to thunder forth the unity of all Christendom. One Lord. One faith. One baptism. One God and Father. One Jesus Christ. One cross. One heaven.

So also there is room for a religious journal that stands for liberty as against all oppression. No authority, political or ecclesiastical, must be permitted to make us believe this or that. Liberty of the Armenian to worship God independent of the Turkish government. Liberty of Cuba as against Spanish domination. Liberty of Hawaii as against all monarchical authority which it has thrown off. Civil liberty. Political liberty. Religious liberty.

Again, I say there is room for a religious paper charged with old-fashioned evangelism. Other styles of religious newspaper may do for advertising purposes, or for the presentation of able essays on elaborate themes, but if this world is ever brought to God it will be through unqualified, unadulterated, unmixed, unmistakable evangelism. It was astounding that the Lord Almighty should have gone into great bereavement, submitting to the loss of his only Son, that Son stepping off the doorsill of heaven into a darkness and an abysm that no plummet has ever yet been able to fathom; and through that funeral of the heavens life is offered to our world; but how to get the tidings to all people, and in such an attractive way that they will take hold of them, is the absorbing question. The human voice can travel only a few feet away, and the world wants something further and wider reaching, and that is the newspaper press; and as the secular press must necessarily give itself chiefly to secular affairs, let the religious newspaper give itself to the present and everlasting salvation of all who can read, or, if not able to read, have ears to hear others read. If there be an opportunity higher, deeper, grander than that offered to newspaper evangelism, name it and guide us to it, that we may see its altars, its pillars, its domes, its infinitude!

Again, I notice there is room for a religious paper thoroughly humanitarian. The simple fact is, the majority of the human race have not enough to eat or wear. The majority of the human race are in trouble. How to multiply loaves of bread and increase the fuel and heal the wounds and shelter the homeless are questions that Christ met equally as soon as he did spiritual necessities. The first heart to respond to the cry of sufferers from drought, or flood, or earthquake, or cruelty, should be the Christian heart. Therefore let the pages of religious journalism spread out the story of all such woes, and collect relief, and disburse alms all around our suffering world. Religious journalism ought to become the aqueduct through which the Christian charities of the world should pour until there is no more hunger to be fed, and no more ignorance to be educated, and no more nakedness to be clothed, and no more suffering to assuage.

In trying to do that practical thing, the religious paper whose anniversary I celebrated has, during the past seven years ,raised and distributed over $400,000 for the relief of physical distresses.

Again, I notice that there is an especial mission for a religious journal truthfully optimistic. The most optimistic book I know of is the Bible, and its most impressive authors were all optimists. David an optimist. Paul an optimist. St. John an optimist. Our blessed Lord an optimist. I cannot look upon a desert but I am by the old book reminded that it will "blossom like as the rose." I cannot in a menagerie look upon a lion and a leopard, but I am reminded that "a little child shall lead them." I cannot see a collection of gems in a jewelr's window without thinking of heaven aflash and ablaze and incarnadined and empurpled with all manner of precious stones. I cannot hear a trumpet but I think of that one which shall wake the dead. All the ages of time, bounded on one side by the paradise in which Adam and Eve walked and on the other side by the paradise in which St. John saw in apocalyptic vision. The scriptures optimistic, and their authors optimistic, all religious newspapers ought to be optimistic. Not only should all ministers and all religious editors have their heart right, but their liver right. The world has enough trouble of its own, without our giving them an extra dose in the shape of religion. This world is going to be saved, and if you do not believe it you are an infidel. None of us wants to get on board a thrain which, instead of reaching the depot, is surely going down the embankment. All aboard for the millennium!

For the most part, in a religious journal, let the editorials be cheerful and the pictures cheerful. If in one column there be a ghastly woodcut of the famine-stricken in India, in the next column have a list of contributions for alleviation of the suffering, or a picture of a ship carrying breadstuffs. If in one column there be a death of an old minister of the gospel whom we cannot spare, in the next put the name of some young Elisha who can wear the mantle of Elijah. If some evil of society is depicted in one column, in the next show the gospel machinery that is to drive it back into the perdition fro mwhich it ascended. More and more sunshine let there be in religious journalism. Publish in it more sermons on texts like, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good," and fewer on texts like, "Out of the Depths of hell have I cried unto thee, O Lord." If any one has anything gloomy to say, let him say it to himself. If he must write it, let him not send it to editorial rooms, but put it in the pigeonhole of his desk for his heirs and assigns to read it further on, for probably they can stand it better than we. I once gave seven dollars to hear Jenny Lind sing; I never will give a cent to hear a man groan. Up with the blinds and throw back the shutters, and let the morning light come in! There is not so much religion in the dampness of a cellar as in the breath of an apple orchard in blossom week. What a victory David got over himself when he closed the Psalms with six chapters of "Praise ye the Lord," saying it over and over again, until, in any other book, it would have become monotonous. If in our diaries, and our family records and our religious newspapers we would write two honest catalogues, the one a catalogue of blessings, and the other a catalogue of troubles, the former would be five times larger than the latter.

Pray for the religious newspapers of America, because of the fact that, if they have the right spirit, each one does as much good as five, or fifty, or two hundred churches. What are the five hundred or five thousand people making up a Sabbath audience compared with the ten thousand, or fifty thousand, two hundred thousand that the religious journal addresses? Such journals are pulpits that preach day and night. They reach weekly those who, through invalidism, or through indifference, never enter churches. They reach people in their quietude, when their attention is not distracted, as in church, by the fine millinery that appeals to the eye, or the rustle of attire that attracts the ear. It will always be our duty and our privilege, not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, but I believe the consecrated printing press is the chief agency under God to save the world.

Pray also for the religious newspapers of America, that they may resist the temptation to become acerb, harsh and damnatory of those who think differently from themselves. In all denominations there are disappointed people who put mean things in religious newspapers about ministers and other prominent Christian workers. Unsuccessful men and women never like successful men and women. There are editors and reporters who, instead of writing with ink, dip their pens in oil of vitriol or lampblack. When a religious newspaper does not lie it beats all secular journalism in contemptibility. As Adam Clarke, the commentator, said: "Some people serve the Lord as though the devil were in them." That only is a helpful newspaper which, as we fold it up after reading, leaves us in a mood to pray for all men, and in a spirit that wishes prosperity for all Christian workers, whether they work our way or some other way; and we feel as though the angel, flying through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach, had with the flapping of his wing stirred the air on our cheek and forehead.

Pray also for religious journalism, that it may be alert—not abreast of the times, but ahead of the times. In this day, when by cablegram we seem to get from Europe news five hours before it starts, we do not want in our religious columns information scissored out of old newspapers or information sent by means of a letter which comes to us through the dead-letter postoffice, because it was misdirected. Nor do we want it to take the place of religious journalism as it was in 1815, when Nathaniel Wilson started his religious paper called the Recorder, or when the Watchman was born in 1819, or when the Christian Register made its first appearance in 1821. The canal boat drawn by mules on a towpath did well in its time, but now we prefer the vestibuled limited express. Because a thing is pious it need not, therefore, be dull. The printing press may beat Argus of mythology, for that fabulous being had only a hundred eyes, while the newspaper has a thousand eyes, and a thousand ears, and a thousand arms. The secular newspaper gives the secular news, and does not pretend to give its religious meaning. The religious press ought to put all the events of the day in companies, regiments, and brigades, and show us in what direction that divinely disciplined host is marching, and let us know what victories for God and righteousness they will win. The Christianized printing press is to do in our time on a large scale what the battering ram did in olden time on a smaller scale. That old war machine was a stout timber, hung by chains to a beam supported by posts, and many men would lay hold of the stout timber and swing it backward and forward, until, getting under full momentum, it would strike into awful demolition the wall besieged. God grant that all of us who have anything to do with the mighty battering ram of our century, the printing press, may be clothed of God with especial strength and oneness of purpose, and that, having pulled it back for one mighty assault, we may altogether rush it forward, crushing into everlasting ruin the last wall of opposition and the last fortress of iniquity.

And now, let all of us who are connected with either secular or religious journalism remember that we will be called into final account for every word we write in editorial, or reportorial, or contributors' column—for every type we set, for every press we move, and for the style of secular or religious newspaper we patronize or encourage. In Ezekiel's prophecy the Angel of God, supposed to be Christ, appears with an ink-horn hung at his side, as an attorney's clerk in olden time had an ink-horn at his side. And I have no doubt the ink-horn will have an important part in the day of judgment. Those who have used it well to receive eternal plaudit, and those who have misused it to receive condemnation.

Piled up in all the world's printing offices, secular and religious, are the publications of past years, bound up year by year; and in those offices they can tell just what they printed any day for the last twenty years; and in the great day of judgment all that we have written or printed will be revealed from the mighty volumes of eternity. All those who have ruthlessly pried into the secret of unhappy domestic life and despoiled homes, come to judgment! All those who have by the pen assassinated character, come to judgment! All those who have had anything to do with salacious and depraved literature, come to judgment! All those who have produced pictures administrative of vice, come to judgment! No one will then dare say: "I knew it was not true, and I only intended it for a joke"; or, "I had to make my living, and the paper that I worked for paid me in proportion to the startling nature of the stuff I prepared"; or, "I corrected the stuff in the next issue"; or, "I felt my power in the editorial chair, having opportunity to address such multitudes week by week, and I wanted to keep the church and the world in awe of me."

On that great day of judgment all the power we have had on earth will be insignificant compared with the power that will pronounce our rapture or our doom, and that which might have been considered a joke in the "composing room," because it humiliated an enemy, will be no joke at all amid the wreck of mountains and seas; and the ink-horn will there tell of all we wrote anonymously and under the impersonality of a newspaper, as well as that which was signed with our own name. But what a beautiful day for a Frances Havergal, when she gets rewarded for all the kind things she ever wrote with the tears of her invalidism or when the authors and authoresses of all lands and ages are told how many came to heaven through their instrumentalities; and for all those who use the influence of the press to correct the errors, and extirpate the wrongs, and break the serfdom of mankind! Then the ink-horn by the side of the angel of the New Covenant will speak out and tell of what it had to do with all letters of kindness written, with all emancipation proclamations, with all editorial and reportorial eulogies of salvation to a lost world.

Better in that day will it be to have set up the type for one line of Christian encouragement, or written one paragraph of useful sentiment, or published one page of helpful truth, than to have written books as big as Gibbons' five large volumes concerning "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," if these volumes put Christianity at a disadvantage; or as brilliant as Voltaire's "Discourses Upon Man," if they inculcated injurious theories; or as rhythmic as Byron's "Don Juan," if it sacrificed the decencies. On that day, the fixing roll which Zechariah of the text saw thousands of years ago, and the rolls which we see flying over all our towns and cities, and flying from the swiftest printing presses that were ever invented, will be found to contain messages divine or satanic. Not only the ink-horn which Ezekiel saw, but all the ink-horns will come to judgment. "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened."

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

A TALK WITH MRS. PINKHAM

About the Cause of Anemia.

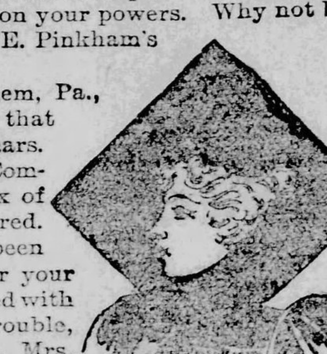
Everybody comes into this world with a predisposition to disease of some particular tissue; in other words, everybody has a weak spot.

In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the weak spot in women is somewhere in the uterine system. The uterine organs have less resistance to disease than the vital organs; that's why they give out the soonest.

Not more than one woman in a hundred—nay, in five hundred—has perfectly healthy organs of generation. This points to the stern necessity of helping one's self just as soon as the life powers seem to be on the wane.

Excessive menstruation is a sign of physical weakness and want of tone in the uterine organs. It saps the strength away and produces anemia (blood turns to water).

If you become anemic, there is no knowing what will happen. If your gums and the inside of your lips and inside your eyelids look pale in color, you are in a dangerous way and must stop that drain on your powers. Why not build up on a generous, uplifting tonic, like Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound?



Mrs. Edwin Ehrig, 413 Church St., Bethlehem, Pa., says: "I feel it my duty to write and tell you that I am better than I have been for four years. I used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, one package of Sanative Wash, one box of Liver Pills, and can say that I am perfectly cured.

"Doctors did not help me any. I should have been in my grave by this time if it had not been for your medicine. It was a godsend to me. I was troubled with excessive menstruation, which caused womb trouble, and I was obliged to remain in bed for six weeks. Mrs. Pinkham's medicine was recommended to me, and, after using it a short time, was troubled no more with flooding. I also had severe pain in my kidneys. This, also, I have no more. I shall always recommend the Compound, for it has cured me, and it will cure others. I would like to have you publish this letter." (In such cases the dry form of Compound should be used.)

IDENTIFIED THE CASHIER

The old farmer's fingers were full of knots and fence-rail splinters, and he had to look over his spectacles for some time before he saw the paying teller at his window, but he managed to hand in the check he had been carrying wrapped in his red handkerchief, and stood waiting for his money, says the Detroit Free Press.

"You will have to be identified before we can pay this," said the teller.

The farmer stooped a little, stuck his head against the window grating and said explosively:

"Hey?"

The teller repeated the statement.

The old farmer took the check, folded it carefully with his big fingers, and then rubbed his gray chin whiskers thoughtfully.

"Have to be identified, do I?" he said, thoughtfully. "Lemme see; who knows me? Thar's Jim Patterson, but he lives 'way uptown. Why, say! this here's Carrin'ton's bank, ain't it?"

"This is the First National bank," said the teller, "and Mr. Carrington is the cashier."

"What is he?"

"Second window to your right."

The old man stepped over to the cashier's window and rapped on it with his whipstock. The cashier, smooth, cool, distant, gray side-whiskered, confronted him.

"I want to git the money on this here check, and that slick young feller in the other pen said I would have to be indemnified."

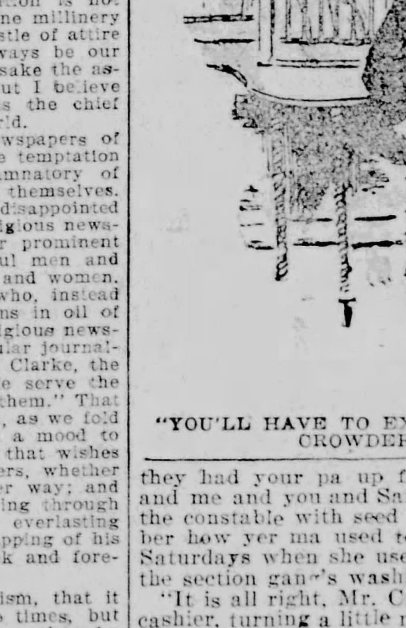
"That is the rule," said the cashier. "You will have to bring some one in who knows you to vouch for your identity."

"Couldn't you do it?" asked the old man.

"Certainly not; unless I were acquainted with you."

The old farmer laughed so loudly that everybody in the bank looked around and listened.

"Why, smash all potato bugs! Don't you remember 'Lias Crowder? I went to school with ye; lived next door to ye when you was plain Pete Carrin'ton, 'stead of P. Ellin'ton Carrin'ton, Esquire. I kin indemnify you if ye can't indemnify me. 'Member that day when



"YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME, MR. CROWDER."

they had your pa up for stealin' wood, and me and you and Sam Piper chunked the constable with seed pertaters? 'Member how yer ma used to lock you up on Saturdays when she used to go out to do the section gang's washin' and you—"

"It is all right, Mr. Crowder," said the cashier, turning a little red on his smoothly shaven cheeks; "I did not recognize you at first. It has been a good many years since I have seen you. Step over to the teller's window, and your check will be paid."

"In a minute," said the old farmer, beaming with pleasure as he recalled the scenes of his youth. "Why, I could ov indemnified you if I'd a met ye in Afriky. You never could look a feller straight in the face, and you've got that scar on your ear yet that old man Phipps gave ye when he caught ye tryin' to steal his best turkey."

"Yes, yes," said the cashier, hurriedly, as he stirred things about on his desk and frowned deeply at some old envelopes; "those old times—yes, certainly—boyhood's days, childish sports, and all that sort of thing, to be sure—quite so, indeed. The teller is waiting to pay your check."

"I'm goin' in a minute. Why, talk about indemnifyin' Pete Carrin'ton, you want to hear me do it. Now, I bet you don't 'member that day when—"

"You'll have to excuse me, Mr. Crowder," said the cashier, prancing up and down in his cage and pretending to be looking for something, "I am very busy to-day."

"Yes, I'll excuse you," said the old farmer, leaning his elbows on the window. "I 'est wanted to see how good I could indemnify you if I tried. Guess you find this kind ov work easier than peddlin' fertilizer in an ox cart, like you did the year your uncle Dick got mixed up in that train-robbery, don't you?"

The cashier left his desk suddenly with an important-looking batch of papers in his hand and walked back into the private office. The old man stumped over to the teller again and handed his check between the bars.

"Pete says ye can pay it," he said. "Mr. P. Ellin'ton Carrin'ton's indemnified me, and I've indemnified Pete. I could go on indemnifyin' him for two hours and a half if I wanted to, clean down to the time he left Cedar Creek with that Punch and Judy show. Gimme five ov it in silver."

His Stirring Appeal.

"The eyes of the world," said the orator, "are upon you. Humanity hangs breathless upon your action."

After which he presented the name of his candidate for the nomination for village constable, and everybody breathed again.—Puck.

An Up-to-Date Twist.

She—What is love?

He—Two saddles with but a single frame; two sprockets that turn as one.—Judge.

Accounted For.

Precise Person—Dear me! What can be the matter with the gentleman? Is he suffering from rabies?

Practical Person—No; babies. His wife has just presented him with triplets.—Somerville Journal.

A Warning Disregarded.

Cannibal Chief—The queen, sire, has caught a dreadful cold.

Court Physician—I knew it. I knew she would. I have warned her repeatedly not to go out without her beads.—New York Journal.

Nature makes the cures after all.

Now and then she gets into a tight place and needs helping out.

Things get started in the wrong direction.

Something is needed to check disease and start the system in the right direction toward health.

Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with hypophosphites can do just this.

It strengthens the nerves, feeds famished tissues, and makes rich blood.

50c. and $1.00; all druggists.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle or common glass with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is evidence of kidney trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate or pain in the back, is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inability to hold urine and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up many times during the night to urinate. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists price fifty cents and one dollar. You may have a sample bottle and pamphlet both sent free by mail. Mention The Toledo Weekly Blade, and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietors of this paper guarantee the genuineness of this offer.

HER QUANDARY.

They had been gazing silently at each other for a long, long time, says the Cleveland "Leader." Ever and anon she had sighed, and he always answered with a sigh.

At last, when it seemed as if the silence must explode unless something were done to puncture it, she looked down at the rich velvet carpet, and in low, tremulous tones, said:

"Isn't it strange what queer thoughts sometimes come to people without any preceding thing to suggest them?"

"Yes," he answered, "it is very strange."

"I have just had a thought that came to me all of a sudden, with nothing whatever to call it up."

He bent forward eagerly, and exclaimed:

"Have you?"

"Yes," she replied, twisting her dainty handkerchief into an intricate knot; "it is so strange!"

"What was it?" he asked.

"It was about Edmund Burke. Funny that I should have thought of him at such a time as this, isn't it?"

"Yes," he answered, "it is, indeed."

"Have you ever read any of his works?" she went on.

"Well," he said, with some hesitation, "I can't say that I have made a regular study of any of them."

"But," she urged, "you, of course, have seen that quotation about the age of chivalry?"

"Oh, yes," he responded. "Let's see how it goes: 'The age of chivalry is dead.' Is that it?"

"That's part of it, I believe," she answered. "And then there is that greatest of all his works, 'The Sublime and Beautiful.'"

She sighed again and put another knot into her handkerchief.

He sighed in return, and it seemed for a moment as if he had an inclination to move over a little nearer.

After another long silence she tremulously asked:

"What is your idea of 'The Sublime and Beautiful'?"

"I don't know," he reluctantly admitted. "I've never read it."

Then she arose, turned up the gas, and went into the back parlor, where she

"WHAT IS YOUR IDEA OF THE SUBLIME AND BEAUTIFUL?"

gave the minute hand of the clock upon the mantel a spiteful twist.

As she returned to where the young man sat the clock chimed 11.

"Why, how fast the time has went!" he exclaimed.

"Yes," she returned, and there was veiled sarcasm in her tones, "it has went faster during the past few minutes than almost anything I have ever saw."

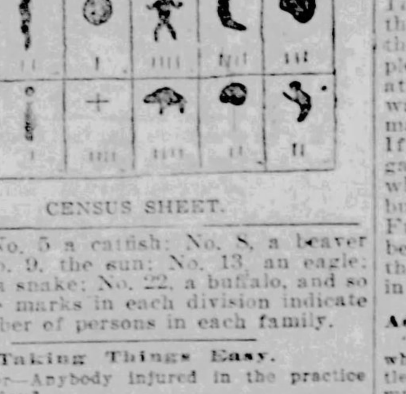
He said good-by then, and when she had returned to the parlor, and begun taking off the shoe that seemed to have grown to her foot, she murmured to herself:

"I wonder if he is just a natural fool, or if he saw the chance and didn't want to jump at it."

Deserving Confidence.—There is no article which so richly deserves the entire confidence of the community as Brown's Bronchial Troches. Those suffering from Asthmatic and Bronchial Diseases, Coughs, and Colds, should try them. Price 25 cents.

INDIAN CENSUS PAPER.

The symbolical census paper of an Indian band was drawn and given in to an agent by Nago-nabe, a Chippewa Indian, during the progress of the annuity payment in 1849. It represents in pictographic characters each family in the band by its name and numbers. Thus figure 2 denotes a man shooting at a



CENSUS SHEET.

mark; No. 5 a catfish; No. 8, a beaver skin; No. 9, the sun; No. 13, an eagle; No. 14, a snake; No. 22, a buffalo, and so on. The marks in each division indicate the number of persons in each family.

Taking Things Easy.

Reporter—Anybody injured in the practice game to-day?

Football Captain—No; the boys went real easy to-day. They are saving themselves up for the championship game to-morrow. Robinson got his nose broken, Smith lost an ear, Dobson got a few teeth kicked out, Jacock dislocated his jaw and broke a few fingers, but nobody got what you really call hurt.—Judge.

Providing at the Start.

"Thomas, Thomas, when you tell a lie do you ever stop to think of the dozen other lies you may have to tell to get out of it?"

"'Course I does, sir, an' I takes care to tell a lie in the first place as'll do for the whole dozen."—Harper's Bazar.

Up to Date.

"All Rhymer's poems seem to lose their original drift half a dozen times; I wonder why that is?"

"Oh, you know, his are chainless wheels."—Exchange.

The Sunday School.

Paul's Last Words.

LESSON II., DECEMBER 12, 1897.

Golden Text: I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.—2 Tim. 4:7.

(2 Tim. 4:1-8, 16-18. Memory verses 6-8. Read 2 Timothy 4:1-22.

1. I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2. Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4. And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

6. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

16. At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

17. Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

18. And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Illustrative Applications.

I charge thee in the sight of God, and of Christ Jesus (v. 1). Once Professor Olmstead—during the war General Olmstead—while chief astronomer of the Dudley Observatory at Albany, was making observation on a star which could be best seen just before sun setting. Having finished his observation, he swept the great telescope downward, and suddenly he saw, in the field of the instrument, some boys, miles away, pilfering an apple orchard. The boys had no thought they could be seen, and set out sentinels to guard against surprise. But there they were, held in the eye of the great instrument, and with every anxious feeling depicted on their faces, as easily marked by Professor Olmstead as though they were in the same room with him. There is a sleepless, piercing, observing eye on every one of us. We do not escape it, though be all conscious of its gaze. That is the true life which steadily remembers that it is always held in the clear and discriminating vision of God.

Who shall judge the quick and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom. We pass away from many things when we are called from this world by death, but there is one thing death cannot seize us from—the judgment. Nor can those who may be living at the time of our Lord's advent escape it either. Both quick and dead shall hear the summons to the great assize. Confronted by the judgment, how utterly we need the justifying righteousness of Jesus Christ! And, like the gorgeous and gracious robe which the Oriental host flung over the meaner garments of his guest when he entered the feast room, the atoning Christ will array us in his righteousness if we accept him. Poor plight his who must meet that judgment with nothing to cover him but his own moral shabbiness!

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, with all longsuffering and teaching (v. 2). Timothy was a minister. And the exhortation here is to ministerial faithfulness. But the spirit of the exhortation runs out to faithfulness in every sort of duty. "Hiram Golf, shoemaker by the grace of God," was the word written on his tombstone. And Hiram Golf, cobbling shoes well and worthily, as in the sight of God, for God's sake, was fulfilling the spirit of this command as really as ever Timothy was in his preaching and shepherding. It is never so much the thing you do as the motive with which you do that thing which lifts or degrades it.

For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts (v. 3). Never be caught with the folly that doctrine is no matter. Doctrine is literally teaching. And it makes all the difference in the world if you be taught wrongly or rightly. To be taught wrong is to be led wrong, and that is a most serious matter. I was making a long journey, once, through a dense forest, along a trail. It was of vast importance to me that, when the trail forked, the signpost gave me the right direction. And do not think that the doctrine you like to hear is necessarily the right one. Your own "lusts"—desires—are a poor standard of discrimination. It is not what you think, but what God thinks, which is the prime concern. Reverent attention to God's word is vastly wiser than being muddled by the wild guesses of those who deny God's word.

For I am already being offered, and the time of my departure is come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith (vs. 6, 7). On a clock in a town in Spain there is a dial, and around the dial this legend is written, "All the moments wound; the last one slays." And that last slaying moment must surely come to each one of us, as it did to the great Apostle. In the solemnity of that "time of departure" we shall see this to be the true success—noble struggle, persistence to the end, truth to the truth. All other success pales in the vivid consciousness of that moment. May the genuine success of the great Apostle be yours and mine! And the Christ who helped him will help you and me.

Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day (v. 8). Do you notice that the Apostle does not fear the judge, though he be sternly righteous? He thinks of going to him as to a glad home-coming. A crown worth having shall be given him—the crown of righteousness. What a crown must that be which all the righteousness of the infinitely righteous God shall fashion and present! The beauty, glory, satisfaction, of it are beyond conception. How earth's prizes fail in comparison with that prize! That is a prize worth the winning. And it may be ours through Christ, as it was the Apostle's through Christ. "I am very ill, but I am very well!" exclaimed one of Mr. Wesley's converts as the last moment struck. How well when earth slips from the frail hand here, but when the strong hand of faith in Jesus grasps the crown eternal there!

At my first defence no one took my part, but all forsook me. But the Lord stood by me, and strengthened me (vs. 16, 17). The first great persecution against the Christians was burning, kindled by the impious Nero. So afraid were people, the Apostle could find in all Rome no attorney to plead his case. But the Lord was with him. Be you sure, whatever may befall, the Lord will never forsake. If the sword must smite, it will open the gates of heaven. Nothing can defeat him who is the Lord's. "The ice was strong, but God was stronger!" shouted some of Frobisher's daring mariners. He can be strong who, like the Apostle, trusts the strong Lord.—Wyland Hoyt, D. D., in S. S. Times.

Advised by a Friend.

"My brother had an attack of fever and when he recovered from this, rheumatism settled in his left arm and he suffered very much. A friend advised him to try Hood's Sarsaparilla and he did so. After taking two bottles he was cured. It has also cured my youngest brother of eczema." S. L. Winkle, Roundbottom, Ohio.

HOOD'S PILLS act easily and promptly on the liver and bowels. Cure sick headache.

A Surfeit.

"You go off every summer for an outing to the same place, Mr. Gray. Where do you go?"

"I go to the shore."

"Do you like it?"

"Yes, but I'm not going again. They have fish for breakfast, fish for dinner, fish for supper; they have fishchowder, clamchowder, clamchowder and fishchowder; they have fried clams, stewed clams, roast clams, steamed clams, clam soup, clam fritters and clam bisque—until my stomach rises and falls with the tide."—Judge.

AFTERNOON COSTUME.

Brown Poplin and Knife-Plaited Silk, With Ribbon Decoration.

Costumes for young girls are frequently made of poplin, and wisely, as that material has excellent wearing qualities and withal looks dressy. Poplin in green, brown, red and other solid colors fashionable this year make neat and attractive dresses and plaid poplins are exceedingly stylish and becoming to girls of all ages. A pleasing costume reproduced from a recent issue of The Delineator is shown made of brown poplin, with frill caps of

close-fitting sleeves. A left-side closing gives an up-to-date air and a full Pompadour yoke at the back and front is a pleasing feature. The front pouches over a green ribbon belt that matches the remainder of the decoration. Frills falling over the hands are of accordion-plaiting. The fancy for this style of wrist finish is still marked; it is a fashion which does not become tiresome, because it has a beautifying effect, making the hands appear smaller and more shapely. The frills are as often of silk as of lace, although the latter, perhaps, are daintier.

GETTING EVEN.

"I cut a clipping out of the paper this morning which I thought might be of service to you, Miss Ricketts," said the ribbon-counter boarder as he looked across the table at tea time, according to Harper's Bazar.

"Indeed," said Miss Ricketts, encouragingly.

"Yes. I'll read it to you."

Conversation hushed as the ribbon-counter boarder began to read the following:

"'If your ears stick out from your head as though a gale of wind were blowing behind them, take a piece of common

"I'LL READ IT TO YOU."

elastic band about 18 inches in length and an inch or two in width—'"

By this time Miss Ricketts had flushed a painful red, and had ejaculated "Sir!" once or twice, but the ribbon-counter boarder did not hear her, for he went on:

"'Sew the ends together. On retiring put the band over the ears from the back of the neck to the forehead. Continue the use of the band until the ears lie back properly. You will find this the easiest and best method in the world for shaping ugly ears.'"

When the ribbon-counter boarder finished and looked up he caught a glimpse of Miss Ricketts' disappearing form as it rushed out of the room and upstairs. With a satisfied smile he folded the clipping and put it in his vest pocket, with the observation:

"Now, I am even with her for her remarks about my red hair."

Free.—A Wonderful Shrub—Cures Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Etc.

New evidence shows that Alkavis, the new botanical product of the Kava-Kava Shrub, is indeed a true specific cure for diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or by disorders of the Kidneys and urinary organs. A remarkable case is that of Rev. A. C. Darling, of North Constantia, N. Y., as told in the New York World of recent date. He was cured by Alkavis, after, as he says himself, he had lost faith in man and medicine, and was preparing to die. Similar testimony of extraordinary cures of Kidney and bladder Diseases of long standing comes from many other sufferers, and 1,200 hospital cures have been recorded in 30 days. Up to this time the Church Kidney Cure Co., No. 418 Fourth avenue, New York, are the only importers of Alkavis, and they are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis prepaid by mail to every reader of the WEEKLY BLADE who is a Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the company, and receive the Alkavis free. To prove its wonderful curative powers, it is sent to you entirely free.

Wonderful.

B. O. Hemian—It's wonderful how they can serve a dinner with a bottle of wine for fifty cents, isn't it?

Friend (who has been invited to dine)—Not so wonderful as to think that some people can eat it!—Puck.

Theory and Practice.

"An article," said the professor, "is worth what the owner can get for it."

"But," remonstrated the Vassar student, "I can go to any bargain sale and get things for one-third what they are worth."—Puck.

Useful at Last.

Mrs. Brown—John, I want you to buy me some tobacco to put under the carpets. They say it's the best thing in the world to keep moths out.

Mr. Brown—Here's that box of cigars you gave me last Christmas. I think that will be even more effective than tobacco.—New York World.

Sporting News.

"Mamma, what is football?"

"Well, it's a kind of baseball in which the players pitch with their legs."—Detroit Free Press.

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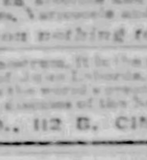

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Proof of His Theory.

"Fine, bustlin' town, eh?" said the man with the chin whiskers, coming over and seating himself beside me on the porch of the country hotel, where I sat wondering how in blazes people could endure to live in such a dead dried-up place. "Ever been in Nay Aug?"

"No," I said shortly, glad that he hadn't waited for an answer to his first question.

"Lively town, I tell you," he said. "Ever been in Quakake?"

"No."

"It's just swarmin' now. Ever been in Mechanicsquaa?"

"No."

"It's havin' a boom an a raisn' Ned. Ever been in Hockandockqua?"

"No."

"Ner Catasaqua?"

"No."

"Ner Sockangdockqua?"

"No."

"Ner Harveyville, I reckon?"

"No."

"Say stranger, hev you ever been anywheres?"

"Well," I answered, smiling a little, "I have been in every capital in Europe, a number of places in Asia, and to several points in Africa."

"Hev, eh?" said the knight of the chin whiskers. "You're a shinin' example of what I've allers said, then."

"Indeed?" I asked. "What's that?"

"I've allers maintained," he said gravely, and jabbing an impressive and boney forefinger at me, "that the trouble with this kentry was that darn fool Americans were allers goin' off explorin' them old, worn-out kentries afore they half knowed their own. An' that's so!"—New York Journal.

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1897.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 151,000

TO SUBSCRIBERS WHOSE TIME EXPIRES IN DECEMBER.

We have just mailed a renewal proposition to some sixteen thousand of our subscribers whose time expires during the month of December. The proposition is very remarkable, and will not be good after December 31. It includes an offer of a valuable oil painting to the person who happens to send us the largest club of yearly subscribers during the month.

Next week we shall announce the winner of the November oil painting. But few clubs of over twenty have been received this month, and except for the efforts of one party, we should have awarded the November painting to a small club.

Any subscriber whose time expires in December not having yet received our proposition, will please write us for a duplicate.

THE BLADE CHINA SETS.

Under the new offer, The Blade china sets are having a remarkable sale, and are giving the highest satisfaction. Those who have obtained them are delighted with their fine quality and their beauty.

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OUR NEW WATCH OFFER.

Our readers will find a new watch list given in the Publishers' Column, on the fifth page of this paper. The list embraces both cheap grades and standard watches, and, though it is not long, gives sufficient variety to suit all. Order by name; not by number. Read the offer throughout, and you will know exactly what the watches are.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Few Americans seem to realize that work is steadily progressing on the Panama canal. The New Orleans Picayune prints an interview with Alfred Ahrling, a civil engineer who recently severed his connection with the corps in charge of the Panama canal work. Mr. Ahrling was on his way to Europe. He says that about 2,000 men are now employed on the canal. The work is conducted in an economical manner and good progress sufficient funds will be forthcoming to finish the cut in a few years.

It is of interest to learn that, under the new plans adopted by the present management, there are to be seven locks. They were found necessary to equalize the tides of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. On the Pacific side the tide rises twenty-four feet and on the Atlantic but two. But for locks there would be such a rush of water at every change of tide as to swamp vessels. The interior locks are to be supplied by the Chagres and Rio Grande rivers.

In view of the propositions urged upon Congress for the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, the probable success of the Panama effort becomes of the greatest importance. Two canals can not possibly pay, and if the Nicaragua one is built the government must be prepared to stand the expense without any probability of a return therefor.

THE KANSAS PACIFIC.

When the reorganization committee of the Union Pacific Railway Company was compelled to pay the government claim in full to obtain the road, it consoled itself with the belief that it could purchase the Kansas Pacific on its own terms, when it should be sold under foreclosure. The committee assumed that nobody would be willing to pay the full amount of the government claim—$13,000,000—for this line, because two portions of it are substantially paralleled by roads controlled by the Union Pacific, and the building of a connecting link would parallel the whole Kansas Pacific.

So certain was the organization committee of this, that it notified the government that it would bid but $6,000,000, the amount of the principal of the subsidy, leaving the government to shoulder the loss of the $7,000,000 interest. The committee thought it had the government in a hole. But it now develops that arrangements are making to bid the road in for the government, unless a bid of $13,000,000 is made. As the sale includes valuable terminals in Kansas City, which the Union Pacific can not afford to lose, it is pretty clear that it is the committee which is in a hole, and not the United States government.

It is said that the Powers are discussing the advisability of a naval demonstration in the Dardanelles or a blockade of Constantinople if the Sultan does not yield to the demands of the Powers with respect to autonomy for Crete, especially in the matter of withdrawing Turkish troops. There is one naval demonstration that would be effective—the capture of Constantinople, the driving of the Turks into Asia, and placing the Dardanelles under control of a minor power, making it and the Black Sea perpetually free to all nations.

Sam Small says civilization is a failure. If its fruits were all of the Small pattern, the verdict would be a just one.

The time is almost here for Pitchfork Tillman and Sockless Jerry Simpson to make their annual debut to the public.

The national headquarters of the A. P. A. in Washington, has been closed, and the furniture sold at auction.

A SILVERITE FALLACY.

One of our European consuls has reported that in Paris a syndicate has been formed with a capital of two million Mexican dollars to establish a large factory of shoes, boots, etc., in Mexico. The work of construction will be commenced at once, and the object of the syndicate is to send an immense quantity of shoes of cheap quality to the American and European markets. Commenting on this item, a free silver organ says:

> There is no occasion for them to stop at "cheap shoes;" they can make the best with equal profit to themselves.
>
> It is a singular thing that our financiers willfully shut their eyes to the prospective ruin of all our manufacturing industries by Mexico.
>
> So many of our newspapers and financiers pretend to see no more in this silver question than one of making our obligations payable in a depreciated currency.
>
> That is not the issue at all.
>
> This difference in exchange making a Mexican price of $2.32 for one gold dollar, will in time ruin every producer in the United States.
>
> The question is one of competition only. And the only reason why Mexico and other silver countries have not supplanted our manufactories before this to an extent of their extinction, is solely due to the lack of education to that end in silver countries.
>
> In all else they are our masters, and can at will drive out of the open market everything manufactured by gold nations.

All of which is bosh. The difference in exchange has nothing to do with the subject at all. The root of the matter is, that in Mexico the wage-rate is much lower than in the United States or in Europe. There are thousands of people in the United States who do not understand why a "dollar" in Mexico is not as valuable as a "dollar" in the United States, and until they recognize the difference between value and price they will fall into confusion.

The fall in the world's price of silver since the early '70's has carried down with it the purchasing power of the Mexican dollar. Merchants there have put up their prices to correspond with its depreciation, while the rate of wages has not risen in the same degree. This is because of the ignorance of the masses of the Mexican people. The result is that Mexican laborers are working for much lower wages, in reality, than they were a dozen years ago. The laborer who gets a Mexican dollar for his day's work, and who received a Mexican dollar for the same amount of work ten years ago, receives about 30 cents less actual wages than he did then.

This ignorance on the part of the people of that country is the secret of the probable profits of the syndicate mentioned. It can hire labor much cheaper than in Europe or the United States. There is nothing in the "rate of exchange" to make money for them. It is simply a question of the cost of labor.

Were the United States so foolish as to adopt free coinage, the drop in the purchasing power of our dollar would come at a bound, instead of being spread over 24 years. Our money system would go to the silver standard. A dollar then would buy only about 44 per cent as much as it will now. Every laboring man would thus suffer an actual reduction of about 46 per cent in his wages, and it would take a dozen years to bring wages up to their present level. That is what the Mexicanization of our currency really means to the laboring man.

SPAIN'S FORCES IN CUBA.

Gen. Blanco has disclosed the fact that there are only 89,000 Spanish troops in Cuba fit for duty, out of the 192,000 received by Weyler. The remaining 103,000 are dead or disabled or in hospital—the latter class aggregating 63,000, which is an eloquent advertisement of the unhealthiness of the Cuban climate to unacclimated Spaniards.

This frankness on Blanco's part was necessary, in order that his preordained failure in Cuba may not all be blamed upon himself. This much of it—the lack of an effective force—is thus placed upon the shoulders of Weyler, and should detract considerably from his popularity in Spain when the fact becomes known.

The question now staring Spain in the face is, if she could not subdue the revolution with 192,000 troops, how can she do it with only 89,000? The Cubans reject autonomy, and are thundering at the gates of Havana. Spain is exhausted financially, and can send but few troops to Blanco's aid. The prospects of the Cubans were never brighter for achieving their independence.

IMPROVING GIBRALTAR.

Consul Sprague, at Gibraltar, sends quite a news item to the State Department in a report just made. It is that 5,000 workmen are regularly employed in that fortress in building dry docks "and other government works."

This means, first, that England proposes to have a station in the Mediterranean for the repair of naval vessels, and this points to a belief on her part that her supremacy in the Mediterranean is to be menaced in the near future.

Affairs in Southeastern Europe are in a state of unstable equilibrium. They have been so, to a greater or less degree, for many years, but the conditions existing since the war between Turkey and Greece are such that war may come at any moment. England has always believed in being ready for any possible trouble, and the work at Gibraltar shows that she is preparing to fight to maintain her foothold in Egypt and the control of her path to India via the Suez canal.

Our trade with Canada last year footed up $106,000,000, of which $66,000,000 were our exports to the Dominion. Our trade with Canada is greater than with all other American nations put together. When this fact is taken into consideration, it is plain that there is too much indifference in Congress regarding our commercial relations with Canada.

It is believed that Speaker Reed will prevent any repeal or emasculation of the civil service law by Congress. There is a desire on the part of some men in Congress to get hold of some of the spoils to help themselves, but it will come to naught. The spoils system must go.

William T. Stead has written another book, this time to tell of the iniquities of New York. It is singular how some men invariably explore the haunts of wickedness whenever they go to a city.

If Kaiser Wilhelm bumps up against a combination of Russia and China, his land-grabbing in the Celestial area will speedily be cured.

The two things most needed in the Austrian Reichsrath are a healthy bouncer and an ambulance corps.

The Washington correspondents are reminded that Secretary Sherman has not yet resigned.

Kaiser Wilhelm is bluffing China, but the latter is apparently preparing to call his hand.

Weyler is at home again, but there was no earthquake when he landed.

THE DINGLEY LAW.

Amid all the partisan chatter from Democratic sources, the burden of which is that the Dingley law does not as yet produce revenue fully equal to our expenditures, the two salient facts loom up that it is doing better than the Wilson law did, and that the revenues under it are steadily increasing and bridging over the gap between income and outgo.

During the period since it went into effect, it has brought in over $7,000,000 more revenue than did the Wilson bill for the same time after its enactment. It is also to be remembered that imports were larger in volume than usual for the first months of the Wilson law, because imports were held back to take advantage of the lower rates. Likewise, goods were rushed into the United States in enormous volume in its last days, resulting in imports much less in volume than the normal when the Dingley law went into operation.

Another thing to be remembered is that the reciprocity provisions have not yet gotten into working order. The McKinley law was passed in 1890, and repealed in 1894; yet the benefits of its reciprocity provisions had just begun to be felt. It takes time for trade to adjust itself to new conditions, especially between distant countries; and the arrangements which are provided for by the Dingley law are not yet made. Special Commissioner Kasson, who has this matter in charge, reports that a dozen or more countries have indicated a desire to enter into reciprocal trade relations, and that the reciprocity features of the Dingley law will prove more satisfactory, and more effective in promoting our foreign trade, than those of the McKinley law.

The so-called protests of foreign countries against the Dingley tariff law do not seem to have had any more effect upon our commerce with those countries than they did in Congress. No attention was paid to them by the latter, and commerce is now paying no attention to them. An investigation of the subject shows that the thirteen countries which made formal protests against certain features of the tariff law of 1897, in the two months in which the details of our exports can be obtained, have purchased $131,446,503 in value of our products and merchandise, against only $107,077,586 in the corresponding months of last year under the Wilson law.

The Dingley law is all right. It will produce ample revenue; it will extend trade through reciprocity; it already has revivified our industries, and put tens of thousands of men at work. The people have had a thorough trial of the free trade theory, and do not desire another period of depression and hard times such as we had from 1893 to 1897.

CONCERNING HAWAII.

> So Hawaii will be a state some time, and presidencies will be made and unmade by the returns from Honolulu. It will be delightful thus to be governed; and as no other nation in the world's history ever permitted a distinct colony to wield such a power upon home affairs, it will be another interesting phase of the great experiment in democracy.—Springfield Republican.

The great Mugwump organ of New England seems to fall into the common error of assuming that Hawaii will necessarily be made a state, elect Senators and representatives in Congress, and choose Presidential electors.

This does not necessarily follow. It would be an unwise thing to do. The mass of the Hawaiian people consist of Chinese and Japanese, with the native Kanakas in all degrees of admixture with other races. They are not fit for self government, let alone to participate in the government of the great republic.

Other nations have colonial possessions, yet the colonies do not participate in the government of the mother country. Canada is a case in point. Her population is largely of English descent, and it is probably up to the standard of the voting population of Great Britain in education and intelligence. But Canada sends no members to the British parliament, and so far as she is governed from London that government is entirely without Canadian representation.

Hawaii, if annexed, should take the status of a territory, not of a state. No American who understands the case would favor admitting the mongrel horde of inferior races of which her population is made up, to the privileges and responsibilities of controlling the destinies of a state, and of participating in the government of the United States. No doubt the politicians would howl for such recognition, but the general welfare is of more importance than the political prosperity of a clique of self-seekers. Hawaii should be ours, but as a territory, not as a state.

SECRETARY ALGER'S REPORT.

Secretary of War Alger in his annual report asks an appropriation of about $96,000,000, as against $62,000,000 for this year. He asks, among other things, two more regiments of artillery and an additional military force for Alaska.

The increase in appropriations is due to the river and harbor improvements. The appropriation last year for this purpose was $23,000,000, of which only $13,000,000 was spent. The next year the secretary asks for $48,000,000 for this item. It is not probable that the full amount asked for will be appropriated by Congress, however.

Secretary Alger reports the practical completion of the deep-water channel through the Great Lakes, and the realization of its benefits to the commerce of the country. During 1896, the tonnage through the Detroit river from the Upper Lakes alone—the "eastbound freight"—was 27,900,000 tons, valued at $300,000,000.

Another point of interest to the lake cities is the fact that the government deep waterways board is now fully organized, and at work in the field. A survey is now being made from Tonawanda to a point on Lake Ontario, for the proposed ship canal, but the Secretary did not mention this detail.

The Washington Post is confident since reading the expense account of the Ohio Democratic committee that these gentlemen were running a soup house instead of a campaign. We beg to inform the esteemed Post that the committee had a glue factory attachment.

No, The Blade will not publish President McKinley's message until Congress meets. The Blade's staff is too busy to write the message, and in this it differs from most of the other great papers of the country.

Must have had a high old time down in Pittsburg on Thanksgiving day. The Times of the next morning said everybody felt "like a Democrat the day after election."

Where is Andree? Was he drowned, or frozen, or is he still alive, working his way painfully over the interminable ice-floes in the effort to reach civilization?

THE ROW IN THE REICHSRATH.

The rioting in the lower house of the Austrian reichsrath has its origin in race quarrels among the diverse nationalities which make up the empire. To understand the matter, one must go back a little and review the history of the empire of Austria-Hungary.

When Franz Josef came to the throne, the country was governed by an absolute monarchy. It is composed of eighteen different nationalties, each of which has its people partly segregated in a separate province, and partly overlapping those adjacent, thus making a "high old mix" of nationalities and languages. But the government being absolute, the people had not the right of suffrage, and the different provinces no autonomy.

The war with Prussia in 1866 was the cause of the change. The defeat of Austria weakened the hands of the emperor, and as a result of the internal troubles which followed, Hungary received almost complete autonomy. The form of government was changed to that of a dual empire, and the emperor of Austria is also king of Hungary. Each of the two countries has its own parliament, ministers and government, the connecting ties between them being the sovereign, a common army, navy and diplomacy, and in a body known as the Delegations, one-half of which is sent by the parliament of each country, but whose jurisdiction is limited to foreign affairs and war.

The other provinces of Austria, or rather the nationalities which dominate them, began to demand similar privileges, and little by little they gained the right to have separate diets, which make their own local laws. These are Bohemia, Dalmatia, Galicia, Upper Austria, Lower Austria, Salzburg, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, Bukownia, Moravia, Silesia, Tyrol, Vorarlberg, Gorizia, Istria and Trieste.

The question of language has been a delicate one, each nationality demanding that the language of its people should be made the official tongue in its own territory, instead of German, which is the official language of Austria. The Bohemians are the next most numerous people, after the Hungarians, in this mixed-up empire, and they have recently succeeded in having the Czech language made official in Bohemia and Moravia.

The German element is now in a hopeless minority, and this Czech triumph has driven the German element almost insane with rage. Its representatives in the lower house of the reichsrath have made up for their lack of votes by the utmost disorder, and the sittings of the chamber have resembled an American ward caucus of the worst type for the past two months.

The present rioting, which began on Wednesday, was caused by a motion that only one of a large number of petitions against the government ordinance making the Czech language official in Bohemia and Moravia should be printed. The German minority denounced this as oppressive and revolutionary, and resorted to violence to prevent its adoption. The riot that followed was ended by a suspension of the session. On Thursday a motion was made that the president of the unterhaus, M. Abrahamovics, should be authorized to suspend disorderly members for three days, with loss of salary, and that the house itself have power to order a 30-days' suspension for disorder, also with loss of pay. This motion was declared carried, amid fearful uproar.

On Friday President Abrahamovics suspended a number of members for three days, with the aid of the police, but the rioting in the chamber compelled a stoppage of all business. The opposition will probably continue its uproarious tactics, and the end will probably be a dissolution of the chamber, and the ordering of a new election.

AUSTRIAN MINISTRY RESIGNS.

The rioting in the unterhaus of the Austrian reichsrath has forced the resignation of Count Badeni and his ministry. This step was taken because of the intense popular excitement in Vienna, which had culminated in such public disorder as to threaten very serious disturbance and inevitable bloodshed. Emperor Franz Josef was reluctant to accept Badeni's resignation, but the latter urged it, averring that he could not continue in office and accept responsibility for the civil disorders which would be inevitable.

The task of forming a new ministry has been accepted by Baron Gautsh von Frankenthurn, who held the portfolio of public instruction in the Badeni cabinet. He is a German moderate, and said to be popular with all parties in Austria. He will form a neutral cabinet, and attempt the formidable task of bringing the warring factions to an understanding on the question of the official use of the Czech language in Bohemia and Moravia. What success he will have only the future can determine.

CALIFORNIA'S GREAT JUBILEE.

The state of California will celebrate its golden jubilee at San Francisco in January. The jubilee will interest the people of the whole country for it celebrates an event which marked an epoch in the history of the country. The semi-centennial is in commemoration of the discovery of gold by Marshall and his associates at Coloma. California will celebrate the event in her usual magnificent manner and on a scale appropriate with the magnitude of the discovery. The whole country will take a deep interest in the celebration.

Senator Wolcott is to make public how he didn't do it. He proposes to deliver a speech the second day of congress in which he will describe in great detail the experience of the bimetallic commission on its recent tour through Europe. It will be received with much interest by everybody.

Fully two months ago Governor Mount swore a great oath that the Indiana whitecappers would at once be placed behind the bars. Here's reminding him that his pledge has not been carried out.

It is safe to assume that the presidential aspirations of Hon. Horace L. Chapman will never be able to break through the confines of the Chapman home.

So long as the people refuse to give Mr. Bryan an office so long will that gentleman refuse to see any return of prosperity.

Secretary Alger wants the rank of lieutenant general revived. The country is getting along very well without a lieutenant general.

Washington City wants a statue of Grant. Why not put one up, then, instead of calling upon Congress to do it?

The schools of Ohio cost $14,000,000 a year, but it is a bill which taxpayers willingly pay.

Santa Claus comes next.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The near approach of the opening of the congressional session naturally directs attention to the probable action of the national legislature in reference to subjects uppermost in the public mind upon which definite action in some way or other is looked for. Among these the reform of the currency system of the country unquestionably takes the first place. The next Congress, which is to begin its work on December 6, was, as a matter of fact, elected upon a monetary issue, for there can be no denial of the fact that circumstances made the campaign of 1896 essentially a struggle between the advocates of sound money and those who stood for a debasement of the monetary standard of the country. The issue was so pronounced that, as a matter of fact, it disrupted party lines to an extent not known before for at least a generation. For Congress to ignore a situation of this kind as regards the tendency of its legislation would be much more than a mistake; it would be a refusal to obey the popular mandate, which could not fail to meet the condemnation of the people.

As might be expected, intimations as to some of the positions which will be taken in the President's message have begun to be circulated. For the most part these intimations are vague. The greatest interest attaches to what will be the recommendations of the chief magistrate in reference to currency and financial questions. Up to the present such forecasts as have been made as to the President's suggestions on these important matters—the most important that confront the administration—have been indefinite to a degree. It seems likely, however, that the President will concur in the suggestion of many men of experience in monetary and financial affairs that the greenbacks should be retired, so that the operation of the "endless chain" which has depleted the treasury of its gold can be brought to an end. Whether Congress can be brought to take this view of the matter remains to be seen. There seems to be little doubt that a multitude of material will be accumulated for the use of both the administration and Congress in time to be of use to the legislators who will pass upon the question in the course of the next few months.

Thanks to the gold discoveries, Alaska bids fair to receive a degree of attention at the next session of Congress such as it has never received before. In all the reports of departments which for any reason have to consider conditions in the territory the need of legislation is urged, and it is now announced that the suggestions of the cabinet officers will be supported by the President in his first annual message. One ground upon which legislative action will be urged is that the government is losing large sums of money because there is no way of protecting the timber from indiscriminate use. Commissioner Hermann, of the general land office, has submitted information upon this point and has recommended certain radical changes in the laws relating to the permit system for cutting timber in other sections. At present it seems large companies are cutting timber under the permit system supposedly for use in the mines, but much of it is not used for mining purposes at all.

There has been talk from time to time about negotiations looking to the framing of a new arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States, but according to the latest advices of an authoritative character no diplomatic communications have recently passed between the state department and the foreign office upon the matter. All that seems to have been done upon the subject may be recounted in a very few words. The authorities here conveyed to the British foreign office some time ago an intimation that a renewal of negotiations in reference to the adoption of a treaty would be viewed with favor. In anticipation of such a renewal a draft of a treaty was made, but negotiations in the proper sense were not begun. Sir Julian Pauncefote probably consulted the authorities abroad when he attended the jubilee ceremonies, but beyond that nothing has been done.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt has submitted to the secretary, with his approval, the report of Lieutenant Gibbons on the naval militia. Mr. Roosevelt says that there are three or four state organizations which could be utilized at once for manning the smaller national cruisers, but that the majority of the organizations must be depended upon primarily as a second line of defense to place mines and establish signal stations for coast-defense purposes. He notices that the fact that the organizations are constantly calling for officers to instruct them, and says that they can best of all be instructed by actual service on regular war vessels or under the supervision of naval officers and in conjunction with the sailors. He suggests the desirability of Congress authorizing the employment of a small gunboat of a modern type on the lakes, to be devoted largely to cruising with the lake naval militia organizations and to overseeing them, and of one small cruiser on the Pacific and two on the Atlantic, to be devoted to the same purpose. With these cruisers, Mr. Roosevelt says, it would be possible to bring the naval militia to a very high standard of efficiency, and the cruisers themselves, of course, would be available at any moment for any of the regular naval uses in an emergency.

Complaint has been made by some of the trade journals of the practice of the Bureau of American Republics in publishing advertisements in the official publications, and it is not improbable that the matter will be brought to the attention of Congress at the session now shortly to be opened. The trade journals, it appears, complain of the practice as amounting to an unfair competition on the part of the government. This charge is made in a particular manner against the recently published Commercial Directory of the American Republics, which contains advertisements representing a considerable amount of money. The practice of canvassing for advertisements is not a new one, having been originated by the former head of the bureau and not having been formally prohibited. The justification for it is found in pecuniary necessity, the expenses of the bureau being in excess of the appropriations therefor.

From a report made by First Assistant Postmaster-General Heath it appears that women are employed in all branches of the postal service, except as letter carriers, clerks in the railway-mail service and post-office inspectors, and there are some post-offices in the United States at which none but women are employed. The same salary is paid to them as to men for the same character of work, and they are not debarred by regulations from entering any branch of the service. There are 167 women employed in the Postoffice department proper; there 7,670 women postmasters and about 80,000 women who have qualified to assist in conducting the business of the department. The conclusion of the report is that altogether the services of women have proven almost, if not equally, satisfactory with those of men. It is worth noting that the report has been called forth by a request of the German government for information as to the experience of the government with women employees.

After an inspection of the immigrants who arrive at New York some members of the Congressional committee on immigration favor a suspension of immigration, some for as long a period as ten years.

The finding of the Fort Sheridan court-martial which severely arraigns Capt. Lovering for kicking and otherwise maltreating a refractory private will be indorsed by every fair thinker. To have acquitted the Captain would have been to justify officers in any brutality in which they might indulge during fits of anger or cruelty. The same arguments that Lovering used to excuse his conduct were urged in defense of the floggings once practiced in the army and navy, and which are still perpetuated in badly-conducted prisons. If he wilfully disobeys a petty order his superior has other means of enforcing obedience than by resorting to brute force. The officer who could not manage such a case as that of Private Hammond is not worthy of shoulder straps, for that kind of punishment is only effectual as it degrades.

The revenue cutter Bear started last week from Seattle on a journey which ought to bring joy and comfort to the anxious whalers now hemmed in by the ice at Point Barrow, Alaska. It is no light task, however, that lies before the rescuing party. When all the progress possible by water has been made, a journey of a thousand miles will still lie before Lieut. Jarvis, and there will be just as much need for endurance and heroism on this long trip as if the party were in even higher latitudes, in search of the Pole. The use of reindeer should facilitate the work of the expedition. These hardy animals have been tested recently in Alaska by the government authorities, and have proved to be a decided improvement on dogs, which require flesh food, while the reindeer subsist on the moss and similar scant vegetation they find en route.

The decrees for the establishment of what is called the autonomy of Cuba have been formulated by the Spanish cabinet and signed by the queen regent. They embrace also in their scope the government of Porto Rico. The first places colonial residents in the two islands upon the same footing as those in the peninsula. The second extends the electoral law of June, 1890, with certain modifications not specified in the dispatch, to the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, and the third, not yet officially promulgated, deals with the matter of autonomy. It is proposed under it that the government of the colonies shall be in the hands of a parliament of two chambers, the supreme authority being exercised by the governor-general, in the name of the crown, of which he will be the representative. The senate will be composed of 35 members, 18 elective and 17 appointed for life by the governor general. The chamber of representatives will consist of 35 elected deputies, one for every 25,000 inhabitants. The chambers will meet annually. The governor general will be empowered to convene, suspend, adjourn or dissolve parliament, but only under the obligation of again convening it within three months. The colonial chambers are authorized to deal with and hold responsible the secretaries forming the colonial ministry, as well as to address the Spanish Cortes, through the governor general, proposing the abrogation or modification of the national laws, or presenting subjects of colonial concern for national legislation.

Until the full text is published, exhaustive criticism of the decrees is impossible, but sufficient is revealed to show that the autonomy they outline is autonomy with a string attached to it, with its further end in the hands of the crown. As indicative of this is the constitution of the senate, with the minority of its membership appointed for life by the governor-general, his power over the convocation and prorogation of the parliament, the restrictions upon the suffrage, and the limitations upon the parliamentary authority. The governor-general is still invested with much of autocracy, and the parliament appears to be one of form, rather than of esence. The scheme is doubtless as liberal as could be devised, in view of the present temper of the Spanish people, which declares itself in an inflexible resolution to retain the West Indian possessions at all hazards, and riots in the ovations to the butcher Weyler, who returns to Spain as a conquering hero rather than as a disgraced official. The decrees are certainly less liberal than is the disposition of Sagasta. It may be said that they are as liberal as could be expected, under the circumstances, however far they fall short of granting the self-government for which Cuban patriots are doing battle.

It is needless to say that they will not be accepted by the insurgents. They will be instantly and contemptuously rejected. Concurrently with the promulgation of the decrees comes the manifesto of the Cuban constituent assembly which met to remodel the constitution and elect the new president. "No special laws, no political reform or autonomy," it says, "nothing in short that the Spanish government may be willing to grant, which may mean Spanish sovereignty over Cuba, will be accepted by the Cubans as a settlement of the war." "Independence or death," it adds, "is and shall be the unalterable and sacred motto of the Cubans." The decrees, insufficient at any time to satisfy the spirit of Cuba are now, at all events, too late. For all practical purposes they might as well have been unwritten. The issue is clearly drawn. Spain must subjugate Cuba or grant her complete independence. She cannot achieve the one; she must eventually concede the other.

Negotiations are still in progress between the governments of Hawaii and Japan with a view to the settlement of the differences between the two governments by arbitration. There seems to be no doubt whatever as to the outcome of the negotiations being favorable. The latest advices from Hawaii convey the assurances that there is no longer any danger of a rupture between the two governments in regard to the immigration question, the Japanese having abandoned their contention in reference to the right of Hawaii to exclude undesirable persons, and the controversy has been narrowed down to a mere question of money damage, which is to be left to arbitration. The arbitrators who may be appointed are to determine whether Hawaii is liable and then to what extent damages are to be paid. Japan has put in a definite pecuniary claim for damages, so that if any are allowed the amount, at any rate, is limited. As far as the people of the United States are concerned the chief interest in the Hawaiian islands attaches to the question of annexation, the movement for which has been rapidly pushed to the front of late.

A QUICK-WITTED WAITRESS

A specimen of clever wit was given by a waitress in a Winter street restaurant the other day, says the Boston Herald.

A middle aged woman entered the place, and taking a seat at the counter, carefully scrutinized the bill of fare. She concluded to try an order of ice cream pudding at 5 cents a plate. After it had

"DO YOU CALL THIS ICE CREAM PUDDING?"

been served she looked it over carefully, and calling the waitress back, said:

"Do you call this ice cream pudding?"

"Yessum, and it's very nice, too."

"But where is the ice cream?"

"Oh, that's only the name given that peculiar make of pudding; we are making a drive on it. I'm sure you'll like it when you taste it."

"It seems to me that you ought to give ice cream with it as long as you call it ice cream pudding."

"We don't give cottages with cottage pudding," quickly replied the witty waitress, which threw the middle-aged woman into a convulsion of laughter, and she ordered a second plate.

An Explanation.

"And why," asked the young porker, "do you feel so sad whenever you see a hen.

"My son," replied the hog, "I can't help thinking of ham-and-eggs."—Puck.

FARM PRODUCE IS SENT TO MARKET BY TROLLEY IN ENGLAND.

TO MARKET BY TROLLEY

How English Truckers Save Their Horses for Farm Work.

An English trolley line, plying between Bessbrook and Newry, through a rich farming district, makes a substantial addition to its receipts by hauling farm wagons over its lines attached to the motor car, in the place of the trailer which is sometimes seen. In order to keep the wagons on the track a second pair of rails is laid inside the working tracks and slightly higher.

The towns at either end of the line are both market towns, and the line runs directly to the business centers, where the wagons are drawn aside and run into their places by a half-dozen sturdy men, who are paid a few pence each by the countryman for this service. It is, therefore, possible for a farmer to bring his produce to market and dispose of it without the aid of his horses. It is not an uncommon sight, and always a rather amusing one, to see a lumbering farm wagon loaded with hay or produce flying along behind the motor car on its way to market. The farmers take kindly to this scheme, as it is a saving of money as well as horseflesh.

BRASS TACK WORK.

Effective Decorative Work to Be Obtained With Little Expense.

The use of the brass head tack for the ornamentation of boxes, stools, tables, screens and chairs is one of the new "fads" of the "handy woman around the house." Some very pretty and effective results may be thus obtained. In making a design to be carried out in brass headed nails, it is obvious that simple patterns are alone appropriate, and those having curved lines are the most to be commended. Highly conventional or purely ornamental patterns, too, should be chosen, for it would be absurd to draw a naturalesque form in brass nails. You had better draw out your patterns on thin paper, and then transfer them to the wood by rubbing over the back with white chalk, following the design with a hard point. A pattern which is continuous, like the scroll on the poppy design suggested for a screen, has therefore to be repeated many times. You could draw just a portion on thick tracing paper, and then prick the design with a thick needle, and so make a "pounce" of it. By rubbing over the design with some powdered chalk tied up in muslin you will get an impression on the wood, as the chalk will pass through the pricked holes.

Your design would consist of lines, which you will fasten with the nails, putting each nailpoint on the line and driving the nail

FLORAL DESIGNS FOR DECORATION.

straight home with a well directed tap. Your difficulty at first will be to get the nails to fasten on evenly and to gauge the distance each point should be from the last nail. Thus, if a nail is half an inch in width, with a pair of dividers or a rule you mark off half inch spaces along your lines. Or if you make a border of alternate large and small nails, say five-eighths of an inch and three-eighths of an inch in diameter, then you have only to mark off these spaces on the line, and no difficulty ought to present itself. A good deal of the effect would be obtained by using different sized nails. The centre part of a line, for instance, in a leaf, might be of five-eighth inch nails, then three-eighth

DIAGRAM SHOWING HOW THE TOP OF AN ORDINARY TABLE MAY BE ORNAMENTED BY ORDINARY FLAT HEADED BRASS TACKS.

inch, ending with quarter inch. Then different patterns would be combined, for there are a great many different shapes and sizes in these nails, varying from small, round headed nails at three cents per dozen to larger and more ornamental ones at nine cents.

It would be worth while buying a sample set and keeping it by you, so that you can design to suit the different nails. This sort of decoration is most permanent, as nothing short of pulling the nails out will destroy it. The design for a tea table top is so simple that a child might try it with success.

THE NELSON GUINEAS.

When Nelson died his purse was found to contain eighty-four guineas in gold, and these were in due course handed with other of the admiral's effects to his friend and appointed agent, a well-known banker named Davison. This sum Mr. Davison replaced with a similar

amount from his own pocket, retaining the Nelson guineas, and having them soldered together in the form of a pyramid thirteen inches in height, each side of which contained the complement of twenty-one guineas, the roof being supported by four full-length weeping female figures. This interesting relic was sold at Christie's.

NAME TOO SUGGESTIVE.

"I reckon ye may think it strange," the Washington Star quotes Meandering Mike as saying, "but I'm in favor of not follerin' this road any furder."

"Mike," said Plodding Pete, reproachfully, "I never tuck ye for a quitter."

"Dere's some t'ings as'll spoil de nerve of de bravest."

"But if we turn around an' go back

"I NEVER TOOK YE FOR A QUITTER."

we'll pass all dem houses where dey turned us away."

"I know it."

"We won't stand no better show dis time dan we did de fust. You know dey even laughed at us when we asked 'em for work."

"I know it. It was a dangerous bluff to make, but it seems like folks is gettin' to expect it."

"We'll try jes' de nex' house."

"No, sir," replied Mike. "Ye can't drag me past de place, much less make me go in an' have any talk."

"Did ye see any marks on de gate pos' dat scared ye?"

"No. I'm almos' ashamed to tell ye. But a man dat looked an' acted like he owned de place passed us a minute ago an' went in de front gate. I heard a woman call him by his fust name."

"What of it?"

"It skeered me off."

"Ye don't mean to say ye lost yer courage jes' from hearin' a man's fust name?"

"I do. It may look to yer like superstition. But as soon as I heard it I felt de cold chills run up and down me back like I was havin' a presentiment of evil."

"What name was it de woman called him?"

"Hiram."

CURRENT EVENTS.

Switzerland's monopoly of the alcohol trade for 1898 is estimated to be worth about 6,760,000 francs clear profit.

According to the Hartford (Conn.) Times, two ripe strawberries were picked from a strawberry bed in Winsted, Conn., on November 10.

Out of 20,000 clerks employed by the government in Washington more than 6,000 are women, with salaries ranging from $300 to $1,800 a year.

In the public schools of Chicago it is found that out of 222 pupils in the grammar schools who attained a certain proficiency, only 23 were boys.

A Lebanon (Conn.) man owns an apple tree growing in the town of Franklin from which the apples fall in two counties—Windham and New London—and in three towns—Franklin, Lebanon and Windham.

Great Britain is said to have spent more than $20,000,000 on imported eggs and poultry last year, while France, during the same period, exported $70,000,000 worth.

Japanese postmen whose routes carry them into the country use bicycles. Their wheels are made by local manufacturers, who have appropriated improvements from both British and American patents.

According to the experience of a Topeka clergyman, people out there will pay more to be married than they will to hear the gospel preached. He says he makes more by performing marriage ceremonies than he does by preaching.

The Indianapolis Street Car Company is trying to find some way to avoid the ordinance passed by the council last spring requiring it to heat all street cars after December 1 in weather when the temperature is below 20 degrees above zero.

On a piece of land in Old Lyme, Conn., is a rocking stone of the following dimensions: Around the stone north and south, 27 feet 7 inches; east and west, 24 feet 10 inches. This immense stone is so delicately poised that one man can rock it from four to six inches.

Canada's new postage stamps are about to issue. They bear the vignette of the Queen as she appears to-day, not as at coronation. The color of the ones, threes and fives will be changed, in accordance with the Postal Union regulations, to green, red and blue, respectively.

There was a car full of people coming down Westford street, Lowell, the other day, and one of the passengers, in asking for a transfer, said to the conductor as he took off his hat, "You see I am bald, I have a wife and four children and would like to transfer to Centralville." He got his transfer.

A Lowell (Mass.) man of considerable prominence tells a good story on himself illustrative of a well-known masculine weakness. He was rummaging around in a garret the other day and found the remnants of an old suit. In the pocket of it was a letter which a lady had given him to mail 22 years ago.

The novel sight of a tree blazing furiously during a downpour of rain was witnessed recently at Charlton Park, London. The tree had been set on fire by a stroke of lightning, and the firemen were summoned to extinguish the outbreak. A fire engine had to be used before the flames could be extinguished.

The average height of women in England is 5 feet 6 inches. The average height of American women, according to William Blaikie, the expert on physical culture, is 5 feet 4 inches. The two inches in favor of English women are doubtless due to many generations of outdoor life and sports.

Spanish and French women of the higher class, according to London Modern Society, are usually expert swordsmen. They are taught to fence as carefully and accurately as their brothers, and there are numerous schools in the two countries where young women are taught not only to fence, but to handle the broadsword.

A man entered a Lewiston (Me.) store the other day to purchase a cloak for his wife and to the saleswoman said: "You just put your tape on me and give me a cloak accordingly. My wife is just my size. My coat fits her to a T." The lady measured the man and sold him a cloak, which he took home to his better half, who was just his size.

Two young women and their escorts thought it would be fun to raid a Bath (Me.) garden the other night. A dog barked, they heard it coming and fled. One of the girls was suspended to the picket fence by the slack of her bicycle bloomers long enough to learn that the dog was only a pug, and her wrath can be imagined, for her bicycle costume was ruined.

An English paper tells of a clergyman who had two curates, with the elder of whom he was at swords' points. On being appointed to another living, he decided to take with him the younger curate, whom he liked, and when he came to preach his farewell sermon he chose as his text, "Abide ye here with the ass, and I and the lad will go yonder and worship."

Publishers' Column.

WATCHES BY MAIL.

The Blade offers its readers this season a new list of watches at less than ordinary retail prices, sent postpaid by mail on receipt of prices marked below. The list embraces two or three cheap but good watches, and three or four better grade of time keepers.

THE KNICKERBOCKER.

A stem winder and stem-setter, having all the modern appliances known to watchmakers' art. The case is solid nickel. It is made on the celebrated thin model plan. Remember, this is not a small clock, commonly called a watch by unscrupulous advertisers, but a highly jeweled nickel movement, made by one of the most celebrated watch manufacturers in America. It is guaranteed by the manufacturer, and if not found exactly as represented, this guarantee is assumed by us. A watch like this a generation ago would have cost $20, if it could have been produced, but the fact is it contains appliances unknown at that time. Each watch has been thoroughly adjusted, and will be sent in perfect running order.

Price $2.00
Same in gold filled hunting case, guaranteed 5 years 6.00

THE SETH THOMAS WATCH.

A genuine American watch, jeweled, and guaranteed an accurate time piece. Nickel, open face, stem wind and stem set, made on the celebrated thin model plan. Price, $4.00.

WALTHAM OR ELGIN, OPEN FACE.

Men's open face gold filled watch, either engraved or engine turned, with Waltham or Elgin works. In the works are seven jewels and all improvements, including expansion balance, plain regulator, etc. The manufacturers guarantee this case to wear 15 years. This watch is open face only, stem winder, pendant set. Price by registered mail, $11.50.

WALTHAM HUNTING CASE.

This watch is the celebrated thin model watch—we mean by thin model that it does not bulge the pocket out of shape or give people the impression that you are carrying a clock movement. The case is made of two plates of solid gold, so thick that they will last fifteen years. Between these plates is a thin sheet of stiff composition metal, the purpose of which is to protect the works from damage when the watch is pressed or struck. This feature saves many a bill for repairs—a great point for people at a distance from reliable watchmakers. The ring joints, thumb piece, and all parts subjected to constant wear are solid gold, which, of course, will wear for generations. The works contain compensation expansion balance, safety pinion, stem winding and pendant setting apparatus, and many other improvements. The movement is made by the celebrated Waltham Watch Co., and is perfect in construction and durability. This watch comes in hunting case only. Price, $15.00.

SOLID GOLD, LADIES' SIZE.

This watch is a handsomely engraved solid gold case, warranted 14k. U. S. assay. We use no foreign movements in this watch, but all are either Waltham or Elgin "American" movements according to the wish of the purchaser. The works are jeweled and have compensating balance and safety pinion. This watch represents the triumph of modern expert workmanship.

Each watch is a stem winder and setter, and has a tempered hair spring. Price, $20.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1.25
½ dozen teaspoons	.85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2.35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1.35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2.00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1.15
½ dozen table knives	2.25
1 dozen table knives	4.25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

SHERIDAN'S RIDE.

Our latest picture is Sheridan at the Battle of Five Forks, size 10x15 inches, and executed in colors. Price 15 cents. This picture cannot be purchased at an art store for less than 75 cents.

Address with remittance in current funds,

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Reader of THE BLADE.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

NO. 903—BRISTOL HOUSE GOWN.

Sizes 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. This graceful and becoming room and morning gown is of heliotrope crepon trimmed with Bruges lace and black velvet ribbons. The pattern is in princess shape in the back, and the fullness of the front is held in place by a fitted lining. The broad collar is especially becoming, and the neck is finished with one of the popular stock collars. Any of the popular silk, woolen or cotton fabrics may be chosen for this model, with any preferred style of trimming. By the omission of the large collar the model becomes one of the simplest designs for a house dress. A

special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1179—CLODILLA WAIST.

Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Any variety of woolen fabrics can be used for this model, which is suitable for all figures. The back is plain across the shoulders, and what little fullness there is at the waist line is drawn in a group of tiny plaits. To avoid too much plainness the fronts are fulled at the shoulder and waist line. Where this fullness is drawn away from the front a vest of embroidery is shown.

A broad, round collar trimmed with narrow braid finishes the neck, and the Eton effect is simulated by the use of the braid trimming. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

No. 1183—Winthrop Skirt.

Sizes, medium and large. This exceedingly graceful and stylish design has seven gores, and measures a little over four yards at the foot. Any of the popular woolen or silk fabrics may be selected for this model, and there are several ways of trimming. Some are trimmed across the front and hips, others have the seams outlined with trimming, and others are trimmed at the bottom. The favorite finish for the bottom is a facing of haircloth or crinoline and a velveteen or braid binding. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1099—DOUBLE-BREASTED ETON.

Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. Combined with any of the popular gored skirts this jacket will complete the ever popular tailor costume. Dark blue whipcord serge is the fabric used for this design, and the revers are faced with ivory satin. It is

fitted with the usual seams and the edges are simply finished with machine stitching. A linen chemisette and tie are worn with this jacket, but if preferred it may be worn over any style of blouse or shirt waist. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1034—ROXANA COAT.

Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. This coat is one of the most popular shapes worn this winter, as well as the most dressy. It may be made of any of

the popular cloaking materials, with the collar of velvet or fur. The edges may be simply finished with rows of stitching or edged with fur to match the collar, or with fancy braid trimming. The double breasted front is fastened with fancy silk frogs, but this is a matter of taste, as button-holes and large buttons may be used. This model fits the figure trimly, and the sleeves, though smaller, are quite comfortable. The collar is of the new flaring cut, and is quite becoming. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

DO NOT FAIL to give the NUMBER of pattern, and MEASUREMENTS. It will save trouble and delay.

NO. 884—BONNABELLE COAT.

Sizes for 2 and 4 years. This little coat is one of the most attractive designs for a top garment for general or dressy wear, according to the material and trimming selected. It is a plain sacque shape in front, slightly double-breasted, which gives added warmth just where needed; and the back has a double box plait in the middle. With cloth coats the full shoulder cape is sometimes made of velvet or silk, of the same or contrasting color. Bands of fur, braid, or any kind of flat trimming can be used to edge the collar, cape and

front of coat, or the edges may be simply finished with rows of stitching. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

NO. 1107—MAEBELL WAIST.

Sizes for 14 and 16 years. A navy blue novelty material combined with plain taffeta silk are the fabrics employed for this dainty and becoming waist. The back of the bodice fits smoothly across the shoulders, but has a little fulness at the waist. The material is cut down from the neck in a line with the

front, and the lining is faced down with silk, to give a guimpe effect. The belt and collar of dark blue velvet, and the edges of the jacket front are edged with passementerie. This design is especially stylish and will be found quite desirable to renovate old gowns. A special illustration and full directions about the pattern will be found on the envelope in which it is enclosed.

ONE OF LIFE'S EXPERIENCE.

He rose from nothing, yet the fact
Did not his soul elate;
But, rather, on the other hand,
He roundly cursed his fate.

He rose from nothing, 'tis true;
His feelings we can share;
He sat down ere he found his wife
Had moved the easy chair.

—Puck.

NO PARLEYING AFTER THAT.

Beggar Quickly Understood the Reason for the Actor's Poverty.

Last winter, which, as is well known, was a period of figurative frost to a great many members of the actor cult, a well known player was strolling about New York with a friend, says the Boston Budget. As a wardrobe is a necessary part of an actor's stock in trade, the player was well-dressed and in appearance prosperous. Presently a seedy-looking person accosted him.

"Say, guv'nor," he remarked, with a professional whine, "can't yer give a feller a nickel?"

The player stopped and looked at the applicant. "I'd like to, really," he said; "but can't you see I'm an actor?"

And the mendicant went his way without further parley.

A Horrible Revenge.

Looking at his cruel, thin-lipped visage one would have thought him the last person in the world to care for children, yet there he sat on the park bench holding a wee prattler of five years in his lap and bending over it with every appearance of love and interest.

"And what do you want for Christmas?" he was asking.

"Oh, I dess a wubber dollie, sum tandy an' a ball 'ud be 'nuff for a lill' dirl like me!" lisped the child.

"Fie, fie!" chided the man. "Why, old Santa wouldn't take the trouble to stop for poor presents like that! What you want to ask him for are five or six great big extra fine wax dolls that sleep, eat and talk, two or three pretty diamond rings, some Shetland ponies and wagons, building blocks made out of gold, bushels of candy, a pretty little real piano and a playhouse in the back yard, lots of toys and"——

"But papa says ol' Santa don't bwing much to poor lil' dirls!"

"Pshaw! He does, too! Now, you just wait and he'll bring you all those things sure!"

Putting the child down he walked away, an evil light in his eyes, his cruel, thin lips writhing in a devilish smile.

"Revenged!" he cried. "If Hardup doesn't get those things for his child she'll make his life miserable, and if he does he'll have to steal 'em! Ahar! Ahar!" he cried.—George E. Creel, in New York Journal.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East Indian missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections; also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all nervous complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. Noyes, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

A Talisman.

What uses had he for all these—
This ring-locked, rusty bunch of keys?
Ah! this one closed his vault of wine;
And this one opened up the mine
From whence he took the store of thought
That here are in his writings wrought.
But this! Why, here he held his life!
This was his latch key, and his wife
Has thanked dear God to hear it turn.
Its place is 'mong the ashes in his urn.

—Woman's Home Companion.

An Impossibility Among Amazons.

"It is the evident purpose of the enemy," the chief of the staff was saying, "to keep us shut up in our intrenchment."

The eye of the king of Dahomey glittered.

"Bring up the Twenty-third hairpins," exclaimed his majesty, with emotion. "Anybody that keeps us shut up is a beau!; shut up? Why, the idea!"—Detroit Journal.

Stolen Sweets.

Jimmy—Ain't yer glad school's begun?

Billy—Naw. Vacation suits me. Look at the fun we had playin' ball, an' fishin', an' everything.

Jimmy—Yes; but just think how much more fun we'll have a-playin' "hookey."—Up-to-Date.

HEATING STOVES $2.25 to $24.00. COOKSTOVES $4.90 to $18.05. STEEL RANGES $19.06 and up. Sent to any address to be paid for after received. For full particulars send for our FREE Stove Catalogue. Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (Inc.) CHICAGO, ILL.

ODDITIES OF LIFE.

An iron spike, eight inches long, to which were attached three oysters, one of which was a baby oyster, was brought up by a Baltimore dredger the other day. The shells were so firmly cemented to the spike that they could not be separated from it. It will be preserved as a curio.

Inventors in India are not as slow as might be supposed. A cooking box, introduced by a Hindoo, is run by solar heat. It is lined with mirrors, concentrating the rays of a heater of copper, covered with glass, and performs its work quickly in boiling, baking or stewing.

The most remarkable knife in the world is that in the curiosity room of a firm of cutlers in Sheffield. It has 1,800 blades and ten blades are added every ten years. Another curiosity is three pairs of scissors, all of which can be covered with a thimble.

An administrative regulation which held good in Prussia for a century and more, has been abolished. It was the provision that every official and employe of the state should, before he could lawfully marry, obtain the consent of his superiors to the step.

Sea fogs may be dispersed for some distance ahead of a vessel by means of a new invention, consisting of an arched distributing pipe with jet tubes set in one side. From these tubes is discharged water or other liquid in a spray against the fog.

What are believed to be the skeletons of the famous 300 of Thermopylae have been unearthed near that place, between the old barracks and the water mills. The bones were found in sarcophagi, containing also coins, medals, vases and ores.

WORE THE FLAG IN BATTLE.

In This Way the Standard Bearer Carried It Through the Civil War.

Dr. Daniel Mayer, recently appointed consul to Buenos Ayres, was at Willard's last evening, says the Washington Post. He was sergeant of the Fifth West Virginia during the civil war, and, regarding the report that the battle flag of that regiment is missing from its case at Charleston, said:

"When the regiment was formed at Ceredo, Wayne county, W. Va., a flag was given it by the loyal ladies of that village. The color bearer, a man named Jones, bore it until a flag was furnished by the government, when the gift of the ladies disappeared.

"At the G. A. R. reunion at Louisville an aged man, totally blind, led by a little girl, entered the West Virginia headquarters, and asked if any member of the Fifth regiment was there. He was told that the surgeon of the Fifth was in Louisville, but not in at that exact moment.

"'Well,' said the old man, 'I have something to give him in token of the kindness he showed me during the late war,' and handed the package to Mrs. Michaelson of the Woman's Relief Corps, a resident of Charleston, asking her to see that it was given into the hands of his old friend. The package, when opened, proved to be the flag donated by the ladies of Ceredo at the beginning of the war. The old man added that when that banner had been superseded early in the struggle he determined to carry it, if he lived, as long as the conflict lasted. He wrapped it about his body, and it was on every battlefield in which the regiment participated. After peace was declared he settled in Indianapolis, taking the cherished memento with him, but as old age and infirmities began to press upon him he thought it should go into other hands, and made the trip to Louisville for that special purpose.

"The lady who received it made a fitting response, and all the bystanders were deeply affected by the pathetic incident. That flag is now safely reposing in my house at Charleston, and will remain there until it can find a secure resting place."

OLD MAN AND YOUNG WIFE.

A Washington Jehu Who Sees All Sorts Weary of the Jay With a Bird.

"But of all married couples the old jay with the young wife makes me most tired. The old duffer tries to put on a dignified air when many people are around, but wait until he gets a chance to smile at his young bride. It's awful. The smile is that of a 'possum which has been treed and knows there is no escape. I mean that it's sickly. Half of them may be putting on with the innocent girl. Three days ago I had one of these old jays in tow. What do you suppose he said to his wife? I was taking them from the White House to the Treasury and passed by the fountain which contains so many pretty goldfish. 'Oh, look at the beautiful little things,' he said, with a grin at his wife. 'You are prettier than any fish in that pond.' She said, 'Oh!' Well, I wanted to throw him in, but of course I was looking out for the coin.

"Here comes a newly married couple. Anybody could tell that. You see, he has his wife by the arm and is looking down into her face with an air of contentment that is enough to make my blues leave me to see. I noticed that couple coming up Pennsylvania avenue twenty minutes ago. He was holding her arm then. He will stick to the job until they reach their hotel this afternoon. He is not afraid she will escape, but he thinks that is part of a new groom's business. You see, he helps her up the steps, and points out things to her. He tells her that is so-and-so. Nine chances out of ten it is something else. He feels that he is bound to say something. I have seen many if these young know-alls point out the Corcoran Art Gallery as the Patent Office, and pass the State, War, and Navy building off as the residence of Gen. Miles or as the new city postoffice. The innocent bride stares in wonder, and thinks so. She believes her darling Henry knows all about it.

"It's very different with the man who has been married several years. He and his wife see for themselves. He stops and looks at a thing which interests him. She goes on and stops to look at something which interests her. They are generally twenty yards apart. If he tells her that a building is such and such she disputes the point, and thinks it's something else."

CASE OF STAGE FRIGHT.

McKee Rankin was telling a New York newspaper man about the worst case of stage fright he ever saw. It was in a Colorado mining town. He said: "We were playing some piece or another, in which the servant is discovered dusting the furniture, etc. Well, I discovered afterward that it was a custom for all persons who had no reserved seats to take a vacant chair the minute the curtain went up.

"On this night in question the body of the house was partly filled, while back of the rail there were standing eight or

"HE GAVE ONE YELL."

ten deep miners, cowboys and all that rough element usually found in that territory, waiting to get a good seat for an admission. The curtain rose, and a little Irishman I had playing the part of the servant had just commenced his opening speech—'Six o'clock and master not home,' or something of that sort, when the entire mob at the back started down the aisles with a rush for the vacant seats. He looked up, saw them coming pell-mell toward the stage, gave one yell and fairly flew off the stage, thinking they were to do him bodily harm, and was out of sight in a minute.

"The play went on, but it was some time before we found the Irishman way down behind a pile of scenery. He finished the performance, but he was badly scared all the same."

Too Alluring.

Jinks—How delightful is rest after work?

Winks—Yes, so delightful, in fact, that men don't always wait till after the work to get it.—Detroit Free Press.

GOV. MARGARET REEVE.

She Filled Idaho's Executive Chair for Two Weeks.

For years past Miss Margaret Reeve has held responsible positions in various departments of the state government of Idaho. As a crowning triumph she has just completed a two weeks' term as chief executive of the far-western state. Miss Reeve is at present private secretary to Mr. Lewis, secretary of state. Recently Governor Steunenberg and

MISS MARGARET REEVE.

Mr. Lewis were called from Boise City to the northern part of the state on business of the utmost importance. The governor was at a loss who to leave in charge of affairs, but finally, at the suggestion of Mr. Lewis, decided that Miss Reeve would acceptably "run the machine" until his return. Accordingly the young lady was left at the state house clothed with full gubernatorial authority, which she exercised in a manner that not only gave satisfaction to the governor, but has won for her great distinction.

Miss Reeve may not have fully comprehended the responsibility thrust upon her before the departure of the governor, but she took hold of official business like an old hand. Before the governor and party had been absent twenty-four hours matters of great importance were brought to Miss Reeve's attention. The governor and secretary of state had left a number of important blanks to which they had attached their signatures, and it was left to Miss Reeve's discretion to issue them or not, on requisitions, applications for extraditions from governors of other states and many other matters. She sought legal advice, but the attorney informed her she must depend upon herself, as he did not "care to be mixed up in the acts of any female governor." When the governor returned he was astonished at the amount of executive business his fair substitute had turned out, and frankly admitted the excellence of her judgment, although in one instance—the case of an application for extradition he said he would not have issued it until he had given the protestants a hearing. He has announced his determination to defend with vigor every act of "Governor Reeve," including the one quoted.

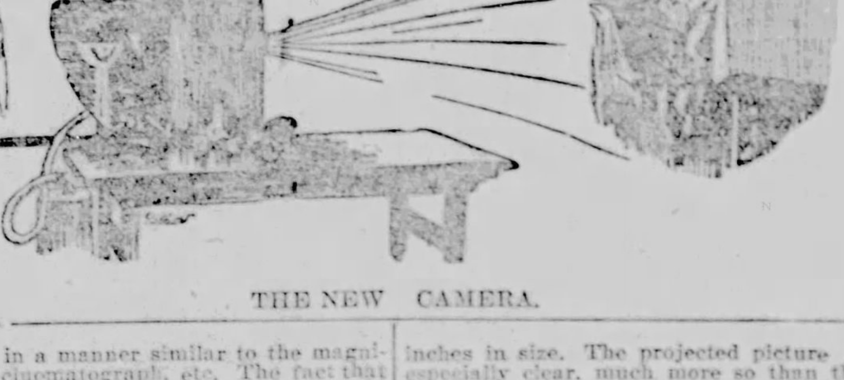
MOTION PICTURES.

A New Invention of Value to Amateur Photographers.

The inventive genius of Nicholas Nelson, a mechanic of Waukegan, Ill., has brought into existence a simple machine that is destined to enthuse the devotees of amateur photography.

This machine is to be known as the new motion picture camera, it being a combination arrangement to take moving pictures and also to project them upon a glass instead of paper, in order to have it a transparency. To project the picture the glass print is placed in the camera by the operator. An acetylene-gas outfit is provided with every machine, the lamp of which is attached to the outside of the camera so as to shine through the potograph lens, and when crank is turned there appears on the parlor wall the image of one's favorite horse, dog or children, as the case may be, in lifelike reality.

It is to be manufactured only for amateur use, although with an unusually powerful light it could be used for professional purposes. However, in a parlor the camera will show a picture 18 by 24



THE NEW CAMERA.

screen in a manner similar to the magniscope, cinematograph, etc. The fact that it is simple and easily handled, made expressly for amateur use, and readily operated by any one who can use a common camera, makes it attractive to those who have grown tired of the ordinary camera, while its novelty and peculiar function will tend to lessen the popularity of the common picture-taker.

The camera is very simple in its construction, weighing only 11 pounds, compactly inclosed in a neat leather case, easily manipulated and carried. On one side of the camera is situated the photograph lens. Between them is placed by the operator a glass plate which is attached to a gear run by a crank. In taking a motion picture the operator turns the crank until the glass plate is covered with negatives and the moving picture becomes a reality.

The developing process is simple, just the same as the development process in common photography, except that the picture from the negative is printed upon

inches in size. The projected picture is especially clear, much more so than the pictures thrown by the larger machines, for the reason that the glass plate is more transparent than the gelatin film used in the other moving picture machines.

The possibilities of the camera for home amusement are great. One feature is that the pictures are reversible, with ludicrous effect, as are the cinematograph pictures with which we are familiar. That pictures taken to-day may be shown 50 or 100 years hence is one of its most pleasant features. A father, withered with age, could view his grown-up or departed children as they appeared and played together in their childhood days. The actions and peculiarities of departed friends might with it be preserved. The life of favorite pets could be prolonged as long as desired. Years hence the children could enjoy viewing their grandparents as they were when young. In fact, the possibilities of the machine are innumerable.

NEW WAY TO WEALTH.

Will Power as a Means of Winning Riches.

According to theosophy, said Dr. A. W. Coryn, the human will was a definite force, and when strongly moved by desire it was able to accomplish visible results, although no apparent action had been taken, says the Essex Times. The desires of men were constantly affecting their outward circumstances, and even if, as in the case of a man wishing for wealth, no immediate result is seen, the ultimate effect would be that in another earth life he would be born amid wealthy surroundings. It always happens, however, that when the coveted boon was obtained some unwelcome and unlooked-for circumstance accompanied it, and so the wise man avoids definite wishes about his future, recognizing his ignorance of what is really best for him, and patiently accepting the destiny meted out to him by the just law.

George Muller, of Bristol, supports a large institution for orphans by prayer. The venerable founder retires into his room, and mentally formulates his wish for a definite sum of money to meet a pressing engagement. Thoughts were things, and once the idea strongly vitalized by his will, passed out into the ether, it floated about until attracted to the congenial soil of the brain of some wealthy philanthropist, who "struck by the thought," sends his check for the required amount.

A Mother's Solemn Advice.

"Ma," said a little girl, "if you'll let me buy some candy I'll be good."

"My child," solemnly responded the mother, "you should not be good for pay; you should be good for nothing."—New York Press.

Hood's Pills

Cure all liver ills, biliousness, headache, indigestion, constipation. They act easily, without pain or gripe. Sold by all druggists. Price 25 cents. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

THE TIME FOR COMMON FOLK.

Days ar' gettin' shorter an' cider's in its prime,
Fer now is when the common folks kin have a jolly time;
Them 'at's been a workin' hard 'preciates the chance
To have a pleasant sociable an' now an' then a dance.

So it's tune up yer fiddle,
Rozem up yer bow,
A swingin' down the middle
An' a do-ce-do.

It's the neighbors greetin' neighbors, an' a crackin' funny jokes,
A leavin' out the formal airs o' stuck-up city folks;
An' lovers ar' a sparkin' and cider's in its prime,
Fer now is when the common folks kin have a jolly time.

So it's tune up yer fiddle,
Rozem up yer bow,
A swingin' down the middle
An' a do-ce-do.

—Detroit News.

TO HAVE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
Use "Garland" Stoves and Ranges.

Mock Gems Are in Favor.

The taste for rhinestones and French brilliants increases constantly. Merchants display a wonderful assortment of dress trimming scintillating with these mock gems, and milliners take varied assortments of pins, brooches and fanciful ornaments set with these stones to insert among the foliage and flowers with which their hats and bonnets are laden. Slides set with rows of pebbles are worn on neck ribbons, and single glittering stones are mounted in metal so that they can be sewn on velvet in sparkling arabesques.

Not a Reliable Sign.

Smitherton (discussing a neighbor couple)—How do you know they are married?

Rinkby (positively)—He just bought that newspaper and kept the news part for himself, giving her the advertisement part to read.

Smitherton—Heavens! You can't tell that way! The bargain announcements are in the advertisement part!

Direct from Distiller to Consumer

$3.20 FOUR FULL QUARTS Express Paid.

Saving Middlemen's Profits, Preventing Possibility of Adulteration.

We are distillers with a wide reputation of 30 years standing. We sell to consumers direct, so that our whiskey may be pure when it reaches you. Adulterated whiskey is dangerous, abominable, yet it is almost impossible to get pure whiskey from dealers. We have tens of thousands of customers who never buy elsewhere. We want more of them, and we make this offer to get them:

We will send four full quart bottles of Hayner's Seven Year Old Double Copper Distilled Rye for $3.20, Express Prepaid. We ship in plain packages—no marks to indicate contents (which will avoid possible comment). When you get it and test it, if it isn't satisfactory return it at our expense and we will return your $3.20. Such whiskey can not be purchased elsewhere for less than $5.00.

We are the only distillers selling to consumers direct. Others who claim to be are dealers, buying and selling. Our whiskey has our reputation behind it.

Our References—Dun or Bradstreet, Third National Bank or any business house in Dayton.

Hayner Distilling Co., 310 to 316 W. 5th St. Dayton, O.

(We guarantee that the above firm will do as agreed.—Editor.)

Blade Porcelain China

A NEW THING.

Tea Sets and Dinner Sets

Still Another Reduction in Prices, and New Ware With Later Designs.

Briefly described, Porcelain, or Semi-Vitreous China, is a very high grade ware, being superior in color and finish to Iron Stone China, and VERY MUCH LIGHTER IN WEIGHT, nearly equal to china.

Our design is the VIOLET PATTERN, being very handsome and entirely new, and a marvel of beauty in shape and color.

Eighty, Fifty-Six, One Hundred and Eight or Twenty-eight pieces handsomely decorated in four colors and gold bands. These goods are made especially for THE BLADE, and we guarantee the highest quality of goods, the best grade of workmanship, the latest and most stylish shape of pieces as well as late and artistic design of decoration. The following illustration is reproduced from a photograph of our new offerings.

No. 1.—BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 PIECES.—We have sold thousands of sets of these goods, and in every case the recipient received more than expected. This year we expect to send out at the reduced prices over Five Thousand Sets. This set consists of 80 pieces, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 round cake plates, 1 tea pot, 1 cover, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher, and 1 bowl.

The No. 1 Blade Standard Tea Set, 80 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, $4.75 (former price $7) or we will present one of these sets to any person sending us a club of seven subscribers and $7. The club of seven names to be sent all at one time.

No. 2.—BLADE TEA SET, 56 PIECES.—This set is exactly like the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

The No. 2 Tea Set, 56 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $3.60 (former price $5.50); or we will present one of these sets to any person sending us a club of six subscribers and $6. The club of six names to be sent all at one time.

No. 3.—BLADE DINNER SET, 108 PIECES.—We can describe this set by taking the above illustrated 8-piece Tea Set and adding the following: 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 compot, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug, making a total of 108 pieces.

The No. 3 Blade Dinner Set, 108 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $7.55; or we will present one of these sets to any person sending us a club of 15 subscribers and $15.00. The club of 15 names to be sent all at one time.

No. 4.—BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 PIECES, consisting of 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 compot, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug. We also offer this to those who may first purchase a No. 1 Standard Tea Set, and afterwards desire to have a complete dinner set.

The No. 4 Blade China Sorts, 28 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $4.25; or we will present one of these assortments to any person sending us a club of eight subscribers and $8. The club of eight names all to be sent at one time.

NOTE.—These sets are decorated with a later pattern than those we formerly sold, and consequently will not match with former purchases. We recommend our readers to buy, first, our No. 1 Blade Standard Set. Afterwards, if pleased with the goods, you may order our No. 4 set, the two combined making you a complete dinner set.

General Directions and Information.

ORDER BY NUMBER.—The goods are carefully packed in box by manufacturer and shipped direct from the pottery to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1, according to distance, will cover freight east of the Missouri River, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Never before was so much value offered for so little money. Twenty years ago only the rich could afford such goods as we offer here. We guarantee these goods the best Porcelain China in the world, superior to enamel, color, style and finish to the best imported wares. We make no profit. We want, and will have, as a result of this offer, thousands of clubs. These articles will be useful in the house of every reader of The Blade, no matter whether rich or poor. Any person who will try it can raise a club of six to fifteen for The Blade in one day. Get about it before some one else canvasses the field. We are prepared to fill orders promptly.

MINES THAT HAVE PAID BEST.

Enormous Sums Distributed in Dividends.

The last dividend paid by the Calumet & Hecla Mining company, making its total distribution $50,850,000, is worthy of special mention for the passing of the half-hundred mark in millions, says the Engineering and Mining Journal. The Consolidated California & Virginia, on the Comstock Lode paid $77,-608,800, but besides this quondam possessor of the "Big Bonanza" there is no record of any mining company returning to its shareholders so much money as the Calumet & Hecla has done. In the United States the Ontario has paid $13,445,000, and the Granite Mountain $12,120,000. There are no others with records of more than $10,000,000. In Australia the Broken Hill Proprietary company has a record of $6,992,000 or £8,736,000 including shares of subsidiary companies which have been distributed, and the Mount Morgan one of £4,400,000. The shareholders in El Callao, of Colombia, have received $9,606,440. The Robinson, in South Africa, has paid £1,647,499 up to the end of 1896, and the De Beers's diamond mines £8,194,147 since the consolidation, while several of the companies which entered this union had paid large dividends before it was effected. The Rio Tinto copper mines of Spain have yielded their present owners £5,757,500 (from 1879 to 1896, both years inclusive); how much the ancients got out of them we have no means of knowing.

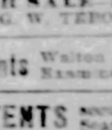
In referring to the above mines as being the largest dividend payers, we do not lose sight of the great bonanzas of Mexico and South America—Guanajuato, Zacatecas, Pachuca, Cerro dePasco, Potosi and many others—of which the production was huge and the profit must have been enormous. The Spanish king received a fifth of the product as his royalty, and the adventurers, many of them at least, became rich. But of all this we have no definite records. Nor have we of many other famous mines of which the exploitation began long ago, like the mines of Laurium and Almaden, or those of the Harz and Erzgebirge. Certain of these mines have been worked with fair continuity for nearly 300 years, and a small dividend per annum for many years may exceed a large one for a few years. The Calumet & Hecla, however, has had the good fortune to pay a large dividend for a good many years already, and the end is not yet in sight.

Change Needed.

Mrs. Wheeler—Yes; the doctor was here this morning and says my husband requires a change.

Mrs. Pedal—What make of bicycle did he recommend?—Puck.

WATCH AND CHAIN FOR ONE DAY'S WORK



Boys and Girls can get a Nickel-Plated Watch, also a Chain and Charm for selling 1½ doz. Packages of Bluine at 10 cents each. Send your full address by return mail and we will forward the Bluine post-paid, and a large Premium List. No money required.

BLUINE CO. Box 2, Concord Junction, Mass.

AGENTS—$[illegible] to show sample and distribute circulars. Sterling Silver Works, Louisville, Ky.

FOR SALE—[illegible] acres improved fine fruit farm. G. W. TEBO, Dover, Delaware.

Patents Watson & Co., Att'ys, Wash'n, D. C. Late Examiners, U.S. Patent Office. Book free.

PATENTS secured, or EVERY $ RETURNED. Searches free. Write for details. Collamer & Co., (Regist'd) 1013 F St., Wash., D. C.

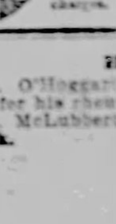
Advice, Information: Wall St. Guide Free. Initial account, $[illegible], accepted this week. S. J. PECK & CO. 62 Broadway, New York. Established 1878. Members Con. Stock Exchange.

FOR ten cents will send recipe for making pound poultry powder at cost of ten cents. W. A. YOUNG, Larkinsville, Ala.

650 NEW STYLE CARDS, &c. FREE. Love, Language of Flowers and Fancies ... FOR 2 CENTS. Address, CROWN CARD CO., CADIZ, OHIO.

GUNS. Double side lever, $6.75; Top, $7.75; Rifles, $1.95; Revolvers, 75c. Prices below everyone—Bargains in Parkers, Baker's and others. Send stamps for catalogue. E. & D. FOLSOM ARMS CO., 314 B'way, N. Y.

BEST WATCH ON EARTH $1.48



Our celebrated 20th Century Watch, Am. movement, warranted 5 years, equal as timekeeper to any $25 Dollar watch. Nickel case, stem wind and stem set. Received highest prize medal at World's Exposition. Just a watch which sells everywhere for $2.00. Agents can make big money by selling it. One agent sold 18 in one single day. Will send watch free for examination by Express, and if found as represented, pay $1.48 and Express charges, otherwise don't take. If money comes with order, watch will be sent post paid, and you save 25 cts. express charges. T. FRETER & CO., Dept. 48 Chicago.

His Action.

Mrs. O'Hoggarty—Phwat is yure husband doin' fer his rheumatism, Mrs. McLubberty?

Mrs. McLubberty—Domming iverything.—Puck.

THE COZY CORNER

THE LATTER RAIN.

"The later rain—it falls in anxious haste
Upon the sun-dried fields and branches bare,
Loosening with searching drops the rigid waste
As if it would each root's lost strength repair;
But not a blade grows green as in the spring:
No swelling twig puts forth its thick'ning leaves;
The robins only mid the harvests sing,
Pecking the grain that shatters from the sheaves;
The rain falls still—the fruit all ripened drops,
It pierces chestnut burr and walnut shell;
The furrowed fields disclose the yellow crops;
Each bursting pod, of talents used can tell;
And all that once received the early rain
Declare to man it was not sent in vain."

The editor thinks there are many among the readers of The Blade who will appreciate the poem at the head of this column, since 'the latter rain' has been sent to us so generously during the past two weeks.

The poem is a quaint little affair written by Jones Very, an American poet, born at Salem, Mass., in 1813.

One of our invalid members has a word to say to-day to the mothers who have written to know "What to do with the boys, with their mischief and noise." Her patience, born of suffering and sad experience may be useful as an example to every one of us; she says: "About two years ago I came to the Cozy Corner in my wheel chair, and received such a sweet welcome that I fully intended to call again in a short time, but have put off writing from time to time, until, seeing the letters written lately by mothers, complaining of their noisy boys, I feel that they have been speaking without consideration, and am moved to tell them of a bitter sorrow that came into my life recently.

"In July, 1896, Willie a boy of 13 years, and the pet of our household, went with a party of young people for an outing on the river. At six o'clock that evening his lifeless body was brought home to us; a friend had taken him on his back in the river and both were drowned.

"God only knows our agony; we had pictured a bright future for him, and he was beloved by all who knew him. Sympathy came to us from every side, but while we appreciated it deeply, there is nothing human that can bring comfort at such a time.

'Dear, tired mothers; think if your boy were to be brought home as our boy was; would not you be willing to endure patiently, nay, gladly, the merry, boisterousness that worries you so now—if only he could come back to life again?

"Never give your children anything to do that is beyond their strength or ability, but let them understand that they are not to leave it undone. 'Moderation and fairness' has been my motto.

"God only loans us our children; soon they will be gone, one by one, either out into the busy world, or to their last resting places. Ask Him to help you to care for and train them.

"I am 69 years old and have been an invalid for 13 years, but in spite of all I have managed to remain young in spirit and enjoy the M. G. R. as well as anybody.

"I wish the sisters who are so dissatisfied could see me working away at the fancy work which takes up most of my time (if it were not for my rheumatism and nervousness which makes writing such hard work, I would like to join the Fancy Work Club), and in trying to make others happy, I forget my own sorrows."—B. A. B.

Still November, like a Quaker
In her garb of silver gray,
Glides along the silent reaches
Shadow-like, as dawn of day.
Gay chrysanthemums she carries
From the garden lands abloom,
And the bracing air is laden
With the spice of their perfume.

She is full of tender fancies,
As she wanders here and there;
Standing underneath the branches
That are shadowy and bare.
And we feel a silent something
In our heart of hearts increase,
And I think the definition
Of its meaning might be—peace.
—Ida Scott Taylor.

Evidently H. V. O. has drawn her sketch from life in a different part of the country from any part that the editor has ever visited.

To her comes the recollection of a country funeral where the neighbors came from miles around. The little "meeting house" was filled to overflowing with rugged, sympathetic friends, and at the grave the prayer and benediction was listened to with reverent heads, bowed and bare, though the month was November. But let us listen to this other description:

"A Country Funeral:—I did not know the mourners who gathered at the open grave, but from my window only twenty yards away, I watched and shed the sympathizing tear.

There was no benediction, no word of comfort or assurance uttered, no song of hope sang; only the work of lowering the coffin, and the dull thud of the wet clay; then the little throng turned slowly away.

This is the way in which people in the country, ten miles from a railroad, are buried; and yet we send missionaries to foreign lands, while our own poor are neglected."

K. J. M., writes to ask if it is perfectly proper for a gentleman to raise his hat to another gentleman when he is with a lady.

It is not only a proper custom but one which has been in vogue for so long a time that it has come to be as generally observed as the tipping of the hat to ladies. It is in fact, done out of deference to the gentleman's companion, and is of course, promptly responded to by the person saluted.

The thanks of the Cozy Corner are due to H. C. S., for a most interesting reminiscence prompted by a question in the wonter column. He says:

"In your weekly of October 28, '97, I saw in 'Our Wonder Column,' a question asked as to the name of a certain woman who was the first in this country to graduate as a physician.

"In the spring of 1846, I took passage from Toledo for Buffalo, thence by canal to Lyons, N. Y., and then on foot to Geneva, where my oldest brother was in college and the next in age in the Courier office, where I had agreed to begin to learn the printing business.

"A year later may be, the people of the little town were greatly pleased to learn that a young lady who had been denied admission at Philadelphia, had been received into the Geneva Medical College, and when word finally came that she was to graduate, many of us gladly went up to the college to see her receive a diploma.

"Several years after I bought a small work published by this noble woman, but in the long years that have elapsed since those dates, and my own much wandering, I had some difficulty in recalling the exact name—Elizabeth Blackwell. Probably few are now living who witnessed this transaction.

"This college had no connection I think with the literary college there, since called Hobart Free College, I believe. We wondered how Miss Blackwell could get along with those medical students, who used to come down the street in a rude drove, and were indeed called 'cattle' at that time, and their miserable inscriptions and figures on the backs of the lecture room seats were enough to characterize them thus, for I attended the Congregational Sunday school in that room. Fifty-eight years is a long way back for one to remember some things."

Cannot some others among the "pioneer" readers of The Blade, recall a few of the incidents of their early life for the pleasure and instruction of our Cozy Corner?

L. A. K. writes about our duty to our neighbor:

Of course we all know what the prayer book says on this subject, but I had heard so many people called "good neighbors" who were radically different from each other that my curiosity was aroused and I determined to find out, if possible, what constituted a truly "good" neighbor, my researches resulting in the conclusions drawn up herein.

A good neighbor is always ready to lend, but seldom borrows, and when she does, "pays back" the same quantity and quality that she receives.

She never "runs in" at unreasonable times unless upon an errand that cannot be avoided, and then she transacts her business quickly and departs.

She never offers people advice before it is asked, but when it is she gives it honestly and fearlessly, even though she knows it is not quite palatable.

She says very little about her neighbors unless she knows something to their credit, then she is sure to tell of it.

When her roses are in blossom she always remembers her friends who love them but have none, and carries them a great bunch now and then, and when she has a horse and carriage at her disposal she does not forget that less favored individuals like to drive!

When her next-door neighbor has unexpected company she is very apt to "hand across the fence" a plate of fresh "raised biscuit" or some tomatoes from her garden to "help out the tea."

She always notices if the doctor's carriage stops in front of a neighbor's door, and loses no time in finding out if her help is needed, offering it in such a hearty fashion that there is no doubt of her sincerity.

She is dependable; as you find her today, so she will be to-morrow, and next week; the tide of her good will is not affected by the ebb and flow of domestic affairs.

Perhaps the Householders will think I am drawing a fancy sketch of a "model neighbor," but it isn't so. It is true I never knew a woman who possessed all these good traits, but there is not one of them that is not characteristic of some friend of mine; I have only taken the liberty of making a "composite photograph" to show what a "perfect neighbor" would be; and surely there is no reason why every one of us cannot follow the model or improve upon it.

Those who live in great cities and do not so much as know who their neighbors are, are greatly to be pitied I think; for in time of sickness or trouble there is nothing that helps to lighten the load of care and sorrow like the consciousness that "next door" and "across the street" and "around the corner" are friends whose sympathies and willing services can be depended upon, and who serve not for wages, but for love; not because they are bound to you by any ties of kinship, but from pure kindliness, and the desire to help one another that, more than anything else, goes to prove them "good neighbors."

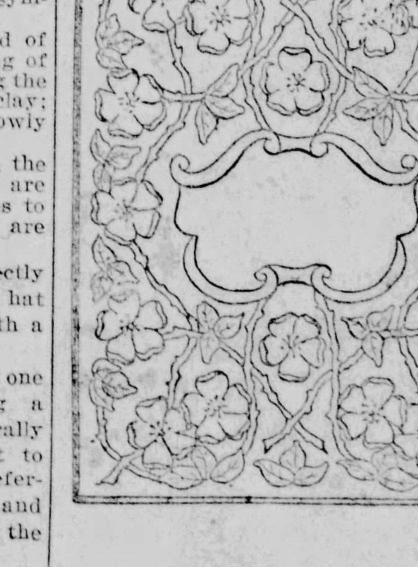
There never did, and never will, exist anything permanently noble and excellent in the character which is a stranger to the exercise of resolute self-denial.—Walter Scott.

"Whenever wrong is done
To the humblest or the weakest 'neath the all-beholding sun,
That wrong is also done to us, and they are slaves most base
Whose love of right is for themselves and not for all the race."

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

When making gifts for Christmas, we generally prefer that they shall be useful ones, something that will serve as a reminder of our love for the recipient, and there is never a time when we can be more pleasantly remembered than when our friend takes his favorite book, or magazine, and seats himself for an hour of "solid comfort" in reading it.

To insure for ourselves remembrance at this time, we need but to give him a cover that will protect the covers of his books and at the same time, be a dainty souvenir of our friendship. We give



here, two illustrations of designs for book covers. These can be made of stiff cardboard cut a little larger than the book, and covered with chamois, silk, velvet or for harder usage, of linen which can be made so that it can be easily removed and laundered.

These stiffened covers are of course for magazines, or books whose covers have been broken, or torn. Where they are designed to simply protect a new book from becoming soiled, or injured, the material of the cover should be cut two inches longer and wider than the cover of the book, the edges turned over the edge of each side and fastened with a

few stitches to hold them in place. Then a piece of silk or linen should be cut a trifle smaller than the side of the cover and neatly pasted over these edges so as to present a smooth appearance on the inside of the book. The extra length of the cover at the back of the book, should be turned in at the top and bottom to avoid a raw edge. Of course the embroidery or painting should be done before the cover is placed on the book, which should be placed under a weight until the lining of the cover is firmly attached to the outside.

The dainty little article shown in illustration 3, may be used either as a catch-all for a work table, or for holding candies, etc. They are especially pretty for souvenirs at a children's party when thus filled.

The foundation is a box of very stiff, heavy cardboard, which is lined and covered with silk(if for a catch-all), or very smooth, fine chamois. The pearl-gray is preferred, and on it is painted a spray of pink wild roses, or any favorite flower. A circle of pasteboard about 5 inches wide and large enough at the inside to just admit the covered box. This circle is covered on both sides with pale blue silk, the box is fastened with a drop or two of glue into it and the whole finished by a frill of white lace just wide enough to cover the blue.

If designed for children's parties this box should be lined with wax paper and

the decorations may be of crepe tissue paper with a lace paper frill.

A SPLENDID OFFER.

As the holidays are rapidly approaching, Miss Bouton, after consulting with the publishers of the paper, has arranged to make the following offer for a limited time to those of her Household friends whose subscription to The Blade expires in the near future. If $1.25 is enclosed in a letter addressed to her personally, she will forward postpaid a cloth bound copy of her last book, Life's Gateways, and see that the name is entered as a subscriber to the Weekly Blade for another year. Those familiar with Miss Bouton's writing know that the book cannot fail to be helpful and encouraging, and will make a fine holiday gift. A portrait of the author forms the frontispiece.

BLADE COOK.

"Three dishes well dressed and a welcome withal,
"Both pleaseth thy friend and becometh thy hall."

One reason why the entertainment of our friends is burdensome to us, is because we attempt too much. A dinner giving means the serving of many and elaborate dishes, that cost money, time and anxiety and often an unpleasant scarcity in the family meals afterwards.

I was told by a young housekeeper, that entertaining a friend for one week, cost them thirty-five dollars above their usual expenses and the loss of a most excellent maid-of-all-work, who, being unable to serve the unusual dishes in the unusual manner required by the mistress, gave up her position. "And," added this housekeeper, with tears in her eyes, "the maid had the impudence to tell me that she considered that it was shoddy to put on so much more style for company than I did for my own family every day."

While it was undoubtedly very rude for the maid to express her opinion so freely, it really seems to me as if she was right. It certainly shows an undue care for the opinion of people, when a housekeeper will make such radical change in her household affairs for the sake of any transient inmate. If you are not accustomed to having your dinners served in courses every day, it is a risky thing to attempt it when you have company; if you help yourselves, and each other, when none but the family are present, you take the risk of accidents and bungling service, if you call upon your maid of all work to wait upon you when there is company.

If you would enjoy entertaining, you must make everything as homelike and pleasant as possible, and if you give your friends that which you can afford, even if it be very plain; and serve your dinner so that there will be no evidence of any unusual preparation on your part, your guests will enjoy it better and you will not have any fears as to what may happen, to prevent you from fully enjoying the presence of your friends.

Above all things, do not allow yourself to go beyond your allowance in providing for guests for it will mean for you days of repentance and nights of anxious care, as to how the extra expense is to be made up. If your guests are accustomed at home to better than you can afford to give them, they will enjoy a change; if they are not as well able as you, to entertain, any great display on your part will render them uncomfortable, therefore be your own natural selves in your entertainments—strive to make your guests feel welcome rather than to give them false impressions of what you are accustomed to.

Writes a mother, to the Cook:—"We are obliged to have the same things to eat, day after day, and we get so tired of them. Potatoes we have in plenty, but the boys say they wish they might never see another one. Beans, turnips, carrots, parsnips and cabbage we tire of. If I only lived where we could have fresh meat, celery, canned fruits and soups, etc., I am sure we would be so much happier."

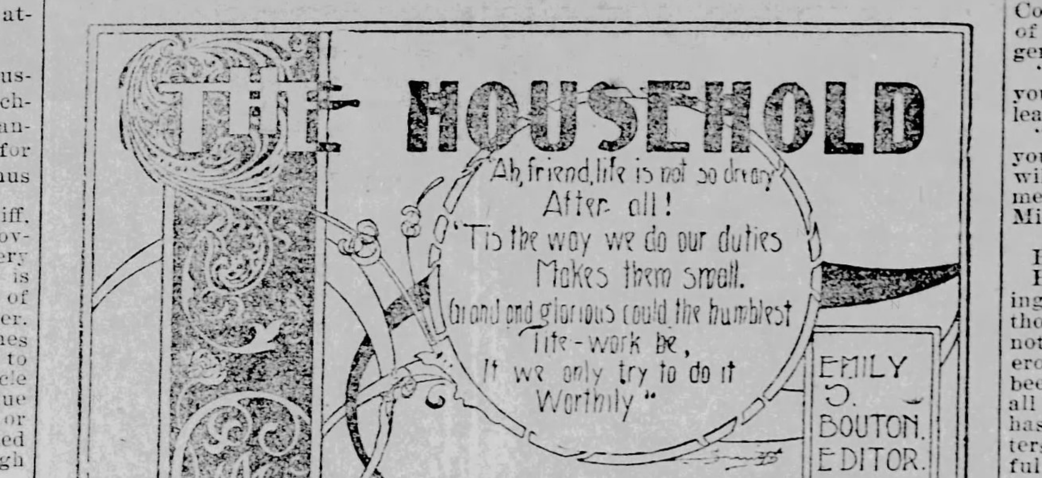
With all of the vegetables our discouraged friends mentions, it would seem as if she must be able to have a variety sufficient to please her "boys." Perhaps the trouble is that she served every thing in the same way each time she cooks. Let her try to vary the "boiled and mashed" potatoes with fried or baked once in a while, and from the recipes given from week to week, in The Blade, endeavor to so "disguise" her materials that the family will not know that they are having the "same old thing."

Another good way to provoke a boy's appetite is to serve very little of any thing at once; they will be certain to eat it all, and ask for more, if they think there isn't much of it.

Sorry When Jack Marries.

"Confession is good for the soul," said the girl in gray to a New Orleans Picayune reporter, "which must excuse me for relieveing my mind with regard to my brother's just announced engagement. Why is it that the first emotion of a sister at such news is invariably one of sadness if not positive chagrin and disappointment? Every girl of you understand what I mean, especially any girl who has ever had an engaged brother. It doesn't make any difference how charming and suitable the girl he's engaged to may be. In my case I know that Madge will make the dearest sister-in-law imaginable, but just now I can't get over the feeling that she's a clever little schemer who has laid her trap and successfully bagged her game. Perhaps it's largely because we girls are 'up' to the tricks of the trade, and we can see right through the little ways and wiles that are like sand thrown in the eyes of our poor, dear, helpless unsuspecting brothers. The feeling isn't confined to just sisters alone, though. All a man's family see precisely the same way, and if you don't believe it you have only to ponder upon the difference in their attitude when a daughter of the house becomes engaged. Then it's all smiles and rejoicing, for everybody's glad to get rid of a girl, but you might have supposed we were at a funeral when Jack told us the news the other day. You feel as if your brother had been 'roped in,' and it is a long, long time before a man's mother and sisters can regard that girl as anything but an impertinent little interloper."

"Yes," returned the young matron in blue, "I know what you mean, but it's queer how different you look at it when you happen to be the 'impertinent little interloper' yourself."



SOMEBODY'S MOTHER.

THE WAY IN WHICH ONE MAN INTERPRETED BROTHERHOOD.

Uncle Billy's Idea of the Need of Trouble—Some Very Pithy Lines

"She is somebody's mother, no doubt."

This was the key note to a little story, which I came upon in a New York paper the other day, and which was the relation of an actual occurrence. It was a simple little thing, and yet so out of the ordinary way of doing, that the reporter deemed it worth telling.

Those who have boarded the cars to cross that great thoroughfare, the Brooklyn Bridge, know how the people rush and jostle each other in their efforts to get a seat, settling down then to a complete indifference as to who or what their neighbors may be. And, indeed, in passing, I may say that there is no place in the world where a human being will feel so absolutely isolated, as in the heart of such a hurrying crowd; each individual intent upon some personal aim, with no thought for the other units in the multitude. In the majority of cases the eyes which rove from face to face are unseeing, because the brain takes no note of the impression made upon the retina.

Upon the morning spoken of, an elderly woman in a car seemed overcome by sleep. She swayed to and fro, and it became finally evident to the onlookers whose attention was attracted, that it was something more than fatigue which had overcome her faculties. When the cars stopped, not a woman remained to see what would become of this sister woman, although they crowded to the windows and looked in upon her, when she had fallen upon the floor in her attempt to leave the car. One man returned and helped her to her feet, supported her to the door and to the outside, for she was unable to walk alone. Then he asked the policeman to call a cab, for which he would pay. It was when the officer asked him if he knew her condition that he answered with the words I quoted: "No matter. She is somebody's mother, no doubt."

It was not a great deed to be sure, not an act of heroism to attract the admiration of the many, but it was the manifest spirit of true brotherhood, that spirit which prompts the putting of oneself in the place of another and taking upon himself what would be that other's duty. There was something of the heroic, too, in thus stepping forth from the crowd, and doing what even those of her own sex failed to do for this woman, who had yielded to temptation. Yet, who knew what were the circumstances back of her failure? Who knew how long, or how great had been the struggle, or under what stress she was laboring? This man did not stop to ask the question, to cavil or to reason. She was "somebody's mother," and as the "somebody" was not there to care for and guard her in this hour of weakness, he took the place and the duty. A little thing, it is true, but it has its lesson and it is this:

We are too apt to measure our charitable thought; to allow it to be influenced by what we call wrong doing; to disbelieve in our responsibility when, in our sight, it is equally the responsibility of others; to deny the tie of brotherhood when it brings us into close contact with what offends our sensibilities. And what we call our "sensibilities" are often only the outcome of a refined selfishness. We cannot, in fact, rightfully separate ourselves from any other human being, nor disregard his degradation, nor be careless of his suffering, for we are all parts of the One Life, subject to the One Law, and with the same heights to climb to reach Divinity. Helping each other is not a mere sentiment, the offspring of religious fervor, but it is a necessity of evolutionary progress. As we live towards the True or away from it, so do we help or hinder our own growth or that of humanity.

In one of the season's story books, I do not now recall what one, Uncle Billy, a colored man, is giving some good advice to Sheba, who feels that her lines have fallen in hard places. In the course of his reasoning, he repeats an old plantation proverb, which runs in this way:

"Troubles is seasonin'. 'Simmons aint good twel dey er fros'bit, you know."

A real truth quaintly put, for no character is strong in fibre until it has become so through the discipline of pain and disapointment. We do not rush madly around to meet these instruments of our "seasonin," but to most of us they come in full measure at some time in life. It is the way in which we face them—whether we grow faint and sick with fear and dread and distress, or rouse to the consciousness that we may turn them into instruments for final good, which tells the story of results. The marble is cut into the beautiful statue only through repeated blows with the chisel, a slow and laborious process, but it illustrates the growth of the human character into higher conditions.

"'Simmons ain't good twel dey er fros'-bit, you know." The human being who never has anything to contend with, has no struggles, feels the need of no effort, is but a "putty man" with little to draw or bind him to his fellows. Just as exercise is necessary for the perfecting and health of the physical body, so is it for the mental and spiritual. We pull against an opposing force to harden the muscles and bring endurance, and the same law holds good in the finer conditions.

To meet with difficulties and by courage and persistence to overcome them; to bear suffering bravely; to refuse to be crushed by burdens, or turned back by obstacles; to see in it all only the path leading up higher—this is the way in which we must get our "seasonin," and like the "frost bit simmons" become "good" for carrying out the purposes of life.

I chanced upon these lines the other day taken from a book of poems by Edna Lithroyn, recently published, and I want to quote them here, for they are pregnant with meaning:

"Each era forms a force in which it flowers,
Be it art, or feudal bravery, or some creed—
Our age has Mammon, unto which it cowers."

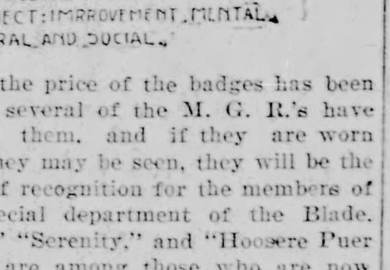
Was ever a truth more fitly spoken? It is true that the force of this age has flowered into Mammon, and he controls the world. But it is also true as the poet's later sings, that while

"Each era has its wrong, it has its share
Of heroism too, of martyrdom,
And from the pressure of its own despair
Develops its redeemers."

And that is the story of the present and the future which will be written.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"Benares! where the gods de dwell!" you wildly shout,
And journey there with great desire, and toil, and cost.
But is not here the God that's there? If with the heart you seek Him,
He's here, He's there, He's everywhere. Go where you will you meet Him."
—Vemana, Hindu poet of the twelfth century.



Since the price of the badges has been reduced several of the M. G. R.'s have sent for them, and if they are worn where they may be seen, they will be the means of recognition for the members of our especial department of the Blade. "Kaela," "Serenity," and "Hoosere Puer Poeta," are among those who are now wearing the pretty silver badge. Should there be any mistake in sending these badges, if you do not receive them within a reasonable time, please send word to that effect to Miss Prudence, who will attend to the matter at once.

Just a week late for Thanksgiving, but very welcome indeed, is our wanderer and absentee—Elfa, of Wisconsin.

Who said I was not here every week? You surely did not glance round the circle. True, I have been "dumb, silent, speechless," and "I haven't said a word," but I enjoy the column nevertheless. Before I could say anything some one else had the floor and said what I had ready. But to excuse myself I will say that it makes me dizzy to go "wound and wound" every week, but I will drop in occasionally for awhile.

I have taken a claim in the pine woods; live alone with my books and enjoy life to the full. Poorer than "Job's turkey" we hear of, but don't read about, I am happy and content, if only the deer wouldn't get into my "baga patch" nights, and hay have to be cut in water knee deep. I have been traveling through the South and West for several months and finally located here.

Will tell you some "yarns" on claim life in the jack pines and sand of northern Wisconsin some rainy or snowy day if you care to listen.

Commend me to my new superior, President "What's-his-name, of Wisconsin, and I will bother him any time I feel like it.

I am, by occupation as above, also minister, at present, and country correspondent.

By our new rules, Elfa, you have no "superior"—not even in office, as the presidents have been done away with, and all report directly to Miss Prudence. We shall be glad to hear some of the "yarns," only make them as brief as possible in order that we may be able to publish them entire.

Linne, a new member from Missouri, gives his views on the proper sphere of woman:

Owing to the fact that I have been away from home the past year, and in that time have had the pleasure of perusing but few Blades, I am now hunting up the old ones to see what the M. G. R.'s have been doing.

I have not been to Klondike, nor the north pole, but have been, part of the time, at least, where I was unable to hear the valuable suggestions of Miss Prudence, or any of the great issues which have been agitating the members.

Boys, it seems that you have established a rather high ideal, but if you are sure you are worthy of it, I suppose it is all right.

While many of the fair sex of to-day are striving for the ballot and the opportunity to occupy the legislative and judicial chairs, yet I think her less noisy field of home is as potent in its influence and far grander in its results. Under such conditions the radiance and joy that emanate from the home will be to man an inspiration and a prophecy, and all nature will yield to her touch and bow in her presence. I am sure that such characters are quite numerous in our department.

Brunette thinks the city teachers have cause to be thankful:

I am glad to know that my letter has been productive of some good. A very little deed sometimes brings about great results; so if anything that I may say or do gives pleasure to any one I shall only be too glad. Punctuality is one of the cardinal virtues.

I visited the carnival in Knoxville this fall and the educational building was very interesting, showing as it did, the work of the city schools. The city teachers should be thankful, for they know nothing of the difficulties with which country teachers have to contend, such as unfurnished houses, want of books, irregularities, etc.

Vivian's death was a shock, yet we must know that our circle will be broken many times.

Cowboy, I hope you are fully recovered from your disastrous "round-up."

Timothy, did my letter arouse your latent faculties?

Pater's Housekeeper, comes from Wisconsin with a breezy little letter that is very welcome:

"Dear Everybody:—I am more than willing to accept the motto, and for the third time make an attempt to enter. Now, do not think for a moment that I have landed hitherto in the waste-basket of which I hear so much; I was just too bashful (?) to send the letters.

"What is the matter with Wisconsin? Come, fellow Badgers, and put the rest of the Union to shame by our intelligence (?).

"Come one, come all and I will take you out to view our glorious autumn leaves.

"If I may remain I will try to write you at least once a year, which I think will be doing better than some of the members. You will guess my occupation, Miss Prudence, by my name."

But why did she remain away so long? Here comes the "Wolverine" after being absent six months, and no one ever thought of inquiring about her. She had not forgotten the M. G. R. and the Chaperone, however. The past summer has been spent in feeding chickens and doing all kinds of work a young farmer's wife has to do, with no assistance. The letters of the many members of this delightful circle have helped to make sunshine in a new home where clouds rose threateningly above the domestic horizon.

Otach, if you were a school-teacher, you would think differently in regard to the perpetual holiday. If we do our work well, no matter what our station in life is, we will find fatiguing work awaiting us.

Winnifred C., it has been a long time since I have said: "Top o' the mornin' to ye," but I can account for my absence thus—a long spell of fever. As I'm "in running order" once more I'll just venture to step in this morning if Miss Prudence will let me.

As to occupation, I do 'most anything there is to be done about the house; wash iron, scrub, mend, cook, wash dishes, etc. I'd just like to know how Mrs. N. E. gets along since she is installed in a home of her own.

I can sympathize with Cow Boy propped up in that pile of immaculate pillows, and, Cow Boy, do they feed you on soup and beef tea? I must depart so that more interesting members can enter, so good-bye with sisterly love for the girls and boys of our circle.

A "Russian Thistle" makes her appearance in our circle. As she does not belong to the family of stinging thistles we will keep her with us.

I have read the M. G. R. column for over a year, and think they have made a wonderful improvement in that time in every way.

I, too, am a "Jack of all Trades," and have done almost everything one could think of about the farm, with the exception of working in the field which I have never done, but have herded cattle for three summers. Are there any other "Cow Girls" in the circle?

Yes, I say, admit the Saloonkeeper's son to this merry circle and make him feel that here he is a welcome member.

I am quite sure not one of the (I cannot remember how many members) would "snub" him because his father does wrong.

Where is Blackeyes, why does she not come again?

Isabel, I think you and I will be great friends and Bonnie Burnie also.

Now I must go, hoping that Miss Prudence cannot find her waste-basket.

We hear so much of hard times and suffering that it is really a comfort to read this letter from one well known in the wonder column as "X Ray," and who introduces himself to the Merry-Go-Rounds in a most admirable manner, telling all that he wishes us to know in the fewest possible words. Miss Prudence is certain that we shall all be very glad to accept his invitation should it be possible, and we will all wear our M. G. R. badges when we go to Omaha, in order that he may recognize us as belonging to the order.

X Ray:—As it seems to be in order for each member of the M. G. R.'s to give their occupation, I will state that I fill the positions of timekeeper, invoice and shipping clerk for a Western packing house. I have been very busy all summer. The number of men employed has been double what it was for several years past, and they have been working overtime at that. The pay-roll is double the amount that it has been for a number of years, and everybody is apparently happy and prosperous. I attribute our busy times to our Republican administration, for I believe the Lord smiles on good government and blesses all classes under their rule.

I enjoy reading the letters of the various members, while I do not agree with the sentiments of all, and I try to live up to the motto of the organization. In politics I am a Republican; in church affiliation, a Methodist.

If any of the M. G. R. members visit the Magic City and desire to see the mysteries of this great industry, I will gladly show them through the plant with which I am connected, if they will let me know that they belong to this order.

Lest we might give him more credit than he deserves, X Ray adds as a postscript to his letter that he has a small boy to assist him in his work. Doubtless the "boy," if he is like most small boys, gives X Ray abundant opportunities of putting our mottoes into practical use.

Does not this letter from "Lydia" give us a picture of a most comfortable, happy home life?

With a smooth piece of wrapping paper and a new lead pencil, as my stationery, a low seat by the kitchen window, a fire in the stove, throwing its warmth about me, which, while fulfilling this purpose for which it was built, is also keeping the pot boiling—and what would you guess boys and girls, is in that pot? As you are likely to guess many other things before the right one, I'll tell you. It is a number one opossum. Ha! ha! No, I have not been out on a hunting expedition myself, but I am so fortunate as to have a big brother, who enjoys hunting; so that nice, tender squirrel, fried or pied, for breakfast or dinner, is not a rare diet at our home, either.

In complying with our chaperon's request, to tell our occupations, I do not know which example to follow—Cumtux's or Bonnie Burnie's. I am a farmer's daughter, resident of Indiana; but there is much difference in occupations of the daughters of the tillers of the soil, as I neither assist in the sowing or harvesting of the grain of the field, though I do help with the garden work, and enjoy it. Dairy work and poultry raising I assist in; cook, spin and knit; sew some—not much, as sister is more proficient in that than I am.

We girls take a turn about driving to market. The one who is to remain at home harnesses the horse and hitches it to the carriage, while the other is getting ready to go. It is a ten-mile drive, there and back home again, which we always enjoy.

Cumtux, I have heard my brother, who lived for eight years in Whitman county, Washington, tell the meaning of the word "Cumtux," in the same words you told us; also of many incidents relative to the strange ways of the Indians.

We have lately removed our flowers to winter quarters, and they are real pretty now, especially a canna, Flamingo, that will fade ere long; but we shall try to keep a bit of verdure and bloom to brighten the dark, wintry days.

I have just begun reading Adam Bede, by George Eliot, and if space can be given, after I have finished, I may briefly relate the story in my own words, for the benefit of those who may not have read it.

Merry-Go-Rounders, listen! The Blade has upon hand a number of the beautiful badges which were gotten up some time ago for your benefit. As they seem too expensive, the publishers have generously decided to cut the price of those which are left in two, that is, so long as they last, they will be sold for 25 cents each. Those who want them will need to order quickly, as there are not nearly enough to go around, and "first come, first served." Now is your chance to secure this lovely pin.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS

THE LITTLE MERMAID.

Far out in the wide sea, where the water is blue as the loveliest cornflower, and clear as the purest crystal, where it is so deep that very, very many church-towers must be heaped one upon another in order to reach from the lowest depth to the surface above, dwell the Mer-people.

Now, you must imagine that there is nothing but sand below the water; no, indeed, far from it! Trees and plants of wondrous beauty grow there, whose stems and leaves are so light that they are waved to and fro by the slightest motion of the water, almost as if they were living beings. Fishes, great and small, glide in and out among the branches, just as birds fly about among our trees.

Where the water is deepest stands the palace of the Mer-king. The walls of this palace are of coral; and the high, pointed windows are of amber; the roof, however, is composed of mussel-shells, which, as the billows pass over them, are continually opening and shutting. This looks exceedingly pretty, especially as each of these mussel-shells contains a number of bright, glittering pearls, one only of which would be the most costly ornament in the diadem of a king in the upper world.

The Mer-king, who lived in this palace, had been for many years a widower; his old mother managed the household affairs for him. She was, on the whole, a

THE LITTLE MERMAID AND THE STATUE.

sensible sort of a lady, although extremely proud of her high birth and station, on which account she wore twelve oysters on her tail, whilst the other inhabitants of the sea, even those of distinction, were allowed only six. In every other respect she merited unlimited praise, especially for the affection she showed to the six little Princesses, her granddaughters. These were all very beautiful children; the youngest was, however, the most lively; her skin was as soft and delicate as a rose-leaf, her eyes were of as deep a blue as the sea; but, like all other mermaids, she had no feet, her body ended in a tail like that of a fish.

The whole day long the children used to play in the spacious apartments of the palace, where beautiful flowers grew out of the walls on all sides around them. When the great amber windows were opened, fishes would swim into these apartments as swallows fly into our rooms; but the fishes were bolder than the swallows—they swam straight up to the little Princesses, ate from their hands, and allowed themselves to be caressed.

In front of the palace there was a large garden, full of fiery red and dark-blue trees; the fruit upon them glittered like gold, and the flowers resembled a bright burning sun. The sand that formed the soil of the garden was of a bright blue color, somewhat like flames of sulphur; and a strangely beautiful blue was spread over the whole, so that one might have fancied one's self raised very high in the air, with the sky at once above and below—certainly not at the bottom of the sea. When the waters were quite still, the sun might be seen looking like a purple flower, out of the cup of which streamed forth the light of the world.

Each of the little Princesses had her own plot in the garden, where she might plant and sow at her pleasure. One chose hers to be made in the shape of a whale, another preferred the figure of a mermaid; but the youngest had hers quite round like the sun, and planted in it only those flowers that were red, as the sun seemed to her. She was certainly a singular child, very quiet and thoughtful. Whilst her sisters were adorning themselves with all sorts of gay things that came out of a ship which had been wrecked, she asked for nothing but a beautiful white marble statue of a boy, which had been found in it. She put the statue in her garden, and planted a red weeping-willow by its side. The tree grew up quickly, and let its long boughs fall upon the bright-blue ground, where ever-moving shadows played in violet hues, as if boughs and root were embracing.

Nothing pleased the little Princess more than to hear about the world about the world of human beings living above the sea. She made her old grandmother tell her everything she knew about ships, towns, men, and land animals, and was particularly pleased when she heard that the flowers of the upper world had a pleasant fragrance (for the flowers of the sea are scentless), and that the woods were green, and the fishes fluttering among the branches of various gay colors, and that they could sing with a loud, clear voice. The old lady meant birds; but she called them fishes, because her grandchildren, having never seen a bird, would not otherwise have understood her.

"When you have attained your fifteenth year," added she, "you will be permitted to rise to the surface of the sea; you will then sit by moonlight in the clefts of the rocks, see the ships sail by and learn to distinguish towns and men."

The next year the eldest of the sisters reached this happy age; but the others—alas! the second sister was a year younger than the eldest, the third a year younger than the second, and so on. The youngest had still five whole years to wait till that joyful time should come when she also might rise to the surface of the water, and see what was going on in the upper world; however, the eldest promised to tell the others about everything she might see, when the first day of her being of age arrived; for the grandmother gave them but little information, and there was so much that they wished to hear.

But none of all the sisters longed so ardently for the day when she should be released from childish restraint as the youngest—she who had longest to wait, and was so quiet and thoughtful. Many a night she stood by the open window, looking up through the clear blue water, whilst the fishes were leaping and playing around her. She could see the sun and the moon; their light was pale, but they appeared larger than they do to those who live in the upper world. If a shadow passed over them, she knew it must be either a whale, or a ship sailing by full of human beings. Never could these last have imagined that, far beneath them, a little Mermaiden was passionately stretching forth her white hands towards their ship's keel.

(To be continued.)

OUR WONDER COLUMN

1.—WHO IS HE?

He was born in Northumberland, England, in the year 1790; he was an eminent clergyman, and a poet of considerable ability. He died in 1858.

C. M. E.

2.—HIDDEN WORD SQUARE.

1.—A part of the vessel was damaged.
2.—Her voice blends well with his tenor.
3.—We could not persuade him to remain longer.
4.—The box was filled with trifles.

SID.

3.—DIAMOND.

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X

1.—A consonant.
2.—A kind of drink.
3.—Conjoined.
4.—A dull, heavy, laborious person.
5.—To inspire.
6.—A word used in driving oxen.
7.—A consonant.

KLONDIKE.

4.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

A tree 100 feet high, standing on a hillside, breaks and falls down the hill; the top strikes the ground 26 feet below the level of the root, and the square of the distance between where the top strikes and the roots of the tree is 2,440 feet. At what heighth did the tree break?

G. W. B.

5.—QUERY.

Who can tell us something about the Hotel des Invalides?

THE SCHOOLMISTRESS.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:

"There is no Christian duty that is not to be seasoned and set off with cheerfulness."

N. E. GIRL.

Answers to Puzzles of November 4.

1.—Henry Walke.
2.—Hickory cutting.
3.—Thwart, heave, wave, Ave, T.
4.—80,173,622 square miles.
5.—Thomas F. Bayard, appointed by Cleveland in 1893.
6.—Shakespeare wrote:
"He who filches from me my good name
Robs me of that which not enriches him,
And makes me poor indeed."

Chat.

Solution of problem given November 4, by A. Faul:

If the diameter of the earth is 8,000 miles what is the area, in square miles, of the torrid zone?

Solution: Multiply the circumference of a great circle of the earth by the altitude of the zone. The circumference of a great circle equals 25,132.8 miles, and the altitude of the torrid zone 3,190 miles; therefore 25,132.8 multiplied by 3,190 equals 80,173,632 square miles, answer.

The Schoolmistress is very glad to welcome "A Farmer's Wife," "Silky" and "Maysie" as representatives of the gentler sex in the arithmetic class, and hopes they will come as regularly as their other duties permit. In answer to an inquiry by Maysie, she will say that it is not necessary for membership that all questions be answered, but the prize is offered for the greatest number of correct answers to the Arithmetical problems given in the time announced.

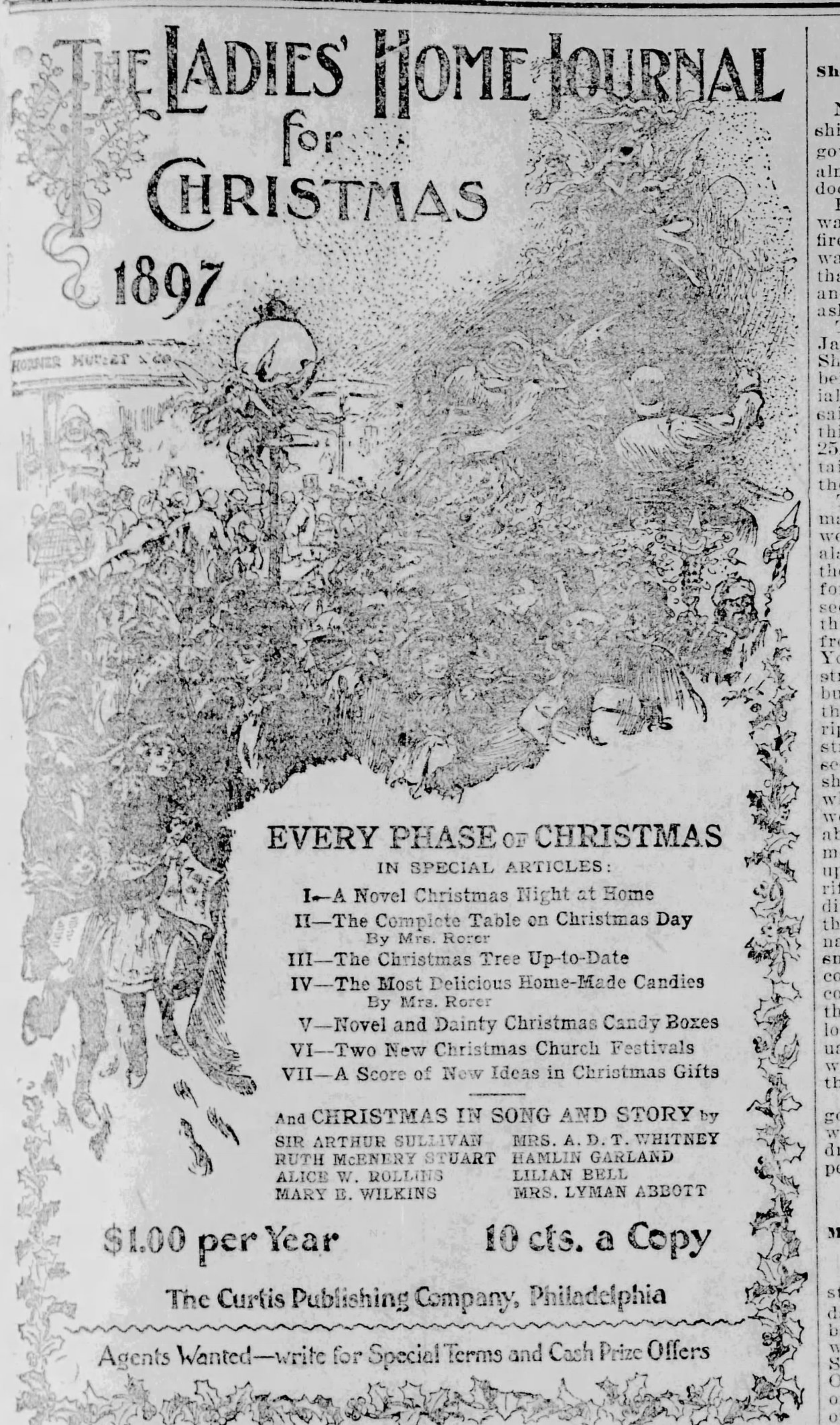
Contributions to the other departments of the Wonder Column are just as welcome as in this, and prizes will be offered for the best original work in all departments.

A prize will be given to the person who sends a complete set of puzzles original for the Christmas or the New Year's issue. These must all have an especial reference to the season for which they are intended, and must reach this office at least two weeks before the date of the paper in which they are to appear. Thus: those for Christmas will be published in the Weekly Blade of December 23, and must be at this office not later than December 9; those intended for the New Year's paper should be sent one week later.

If several sets should be received, of equal merit, the prize will be sent to the one sent first, postmarks at sending office to decide date.

Correct answers received this week from S. J. Phillips, E. J. E., S. W. Dallen, T. J. Andrews, Farmer's Wife, A. E. Cale, Silky, B. Van Norman, and Maysie.

Will C. E. L. please send solution of her problem, as it is contrary to our rules to publish any unless they are fully stated, and accompanied by the answer.



News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every edu-

RAILROAD EARNINGS.

The Increase of Business Indicates Prosperity.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—The Times-Herald says: Railroad earnings tell a cheerful tale of prosperity. Their figures fairly sing for joy. They are bigger and rounder and jollier than any figures since the big year of 1892. The increase for September, the last full month reported, was phenomenal. It broke all records.

Railroads are a barometer of prosperity. Their earnings are the mercury the rise and fall of which tell the tale of business conditions. Then farmers get good prices for their products these are turned over to the railroads to be taken to market. When factory chimneys are smoking the output of the hives of human industry is carried by railroads far and wide. When merchants sell goods they have to be transported to the consumers. Railroad earnings respond to fluctuations in these industrial and commercial activities with all the sensitiveness of the delicate meteorological instruments that are effected by slight variations in the pressure of the atmosphere.

Big railroad earnings mean good times. They are the proof that the productive forces of the country are at work. They are the evidence of the faith of business men. During the past five or six months they have been rolling up like a mighty tide. Since the protective tariff set the factories a-humming and foreign nations have demanded more American breadstuffs, the figures have been swelling in size and increasing in number with joyful rapidity.

Figures of increase are as follows:

Increase for Three Months.

Burlington railroad	$2,279,157
Pennsylvania	2,0778,900
Southern Pacific	1,884,930
Santa Fe	1,377,581
Illinois Central	1,306,417
Canadian Pacific	1,165,906
Union Pacific	1,140,240
Erie	1,129,665

Increase for September for All Roads Reporting.

Gross earnings, $10,161,090, or 14.87 per cent.

Net earnings, $5,491,948, or 24.21 per cent.

Not one of these roads shows an increase of less than $1,000,000 for the quarter of a year, and two of them had gains exceeding $2,000,000 each. Reports for all systems are not at hand, and it is possible others can make as good a showing. It is well to note that the selected lines are widely scattered. They represent all quarters of the country and all varieties of traffic. They indicate that the increased activities of the people are not confined to any particular section or to any special line of production.

September is the last month for which there is an approximately full report of earnings. These show an increase in gross earnings over last year of the enormous sum of $10,161,090, or 14.87 per cent. The increase in net earnings was $5,491,948, or 24.21 per cent. It is said there is no record in the history of American railroads of another such gain.

The movement of grain has been of extraordinary proportions, but all railroad managers agree there has been also a splendid revival in general trade. On the other hand, the traffic might have been much greater but for disturbing factors. In the South yellow fever lessened business, and in the North the miners' strike cut down shipments.

EFFECTS NITRO-GLYCERINE.

Eighty Quarts Let Loose in an Indiana Gas Field.

Anderson, Ind., Nov. 26.—Chesterfield was almost entirely wiped from the map this morning by the most terrific nitro-glycerine explosion in the history of gas-well shooting. Eighty quarts, brought over land from Montpelier in cans, was placed in an open field a half mile from the town.

Marion Hansen and Sam McGuire were working around the well, and without any apparent cause the nitro-glycerine exploded. It tore a hole into the earth down to the water line, knocked a three-ton engine standing forty feet away into many pieces. The derrick was thrown over, and barb wire torn from the fence and coiled around everything.

Hansen, on the platform of the derrick, was thrown fifty feet. His face is filled with dust and tin from the cans, and a rock was shot deep into his neck, inflicting probably fatal injuries. McGuire, near the engine, which was demolished, was thrown fifty feet, but not seriously injured. James Gould's house, 300 rods away, was torn to pieces. All small animals were killed. Chesterfield is a mass of ruins. Every house is moved, doors mashed in, every light out and all plastering down. People who were in bed and in the rooms were injured by the falling plaster.

At Daleville, two miles away, and Yorktown, five miles away, the damage was almost as great. Many were injured. The jar was felt fifteen miles. The miraculous thing is that none was killed outright. The gas at the well was blown out, and in lighting a torch one of the workmen named Cooper caused an explosion of the gas, and was perhaps fatally burned. The damage cannot be estimated yet.

BOUTELL WON.

Result of Sixth District Congressional Election in Chicago.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—At the special election held yesterday in the Sixth Congressional district for a successor to Edward D. Cooke, deceased, Henry S. Boutell, the Republican candidate, was elected over Vincent H. Perkins, his Democratic competitor, by 840 votes, the total vote being Boutell 10,204; Perkins 9,364, Landgren, Pop., carried 228, and David, Prohibitionist, 103 votes.

At the last Congressional election in this district Cooke, Rep., was elected over Martin, Dem., by 6,579, the total vote being Cooke 25,723; Martin, 19,144.

HON. B. K. BRUCE

Likely to Again Be Register of the Treasury.

Washington, Nov. 24.—It is semi-officially announced that the President has decided to appoint ex-Senator Blanch K. Bruce register of the treasury. This leaves Wallace Gaines, of Covington, Napier and all the other aspirants out in the cold. Bruce, shortly after the civil war, represented Mississippi in the Senate, and is the only colored man who ever held a seat in that body, though quite a number have been members of the House of Representatives. During Arthur's administration he was register of the treasury, and under Harrison was recorder of deeds for the district. Senator Bruce took an active part in the recent Ohio campaign.

COFFEE 'WAY DOWN.

What It is Cheaper Than Ever Before.

New York, Nov. 26.—Coffee was never so cheap as at the present time. The decline in green coffee has been so great as to seriously hurt many merchants carrying large stocks in this country and Europe.

Keeping step by step in touch with this drop in the green product the prepared roasted brands have also fallen. In fact, the decline in roasted coffee has even exceeded that of green, not because the roasters were anxious to give the public a chance, but on account of the war being waged between Arbuckle Bros., the big Brooklyn roasters, and the Woolson Spice company, controlled by the Sugar Trust.

When this war began about a year ago the "Ariosa" brand, prepared by Arbuckle Bros., was selling at 18 cents per pound. The last cut made by the Woolson company, and met by Arbuckle Bros., brought the price down to 9 cents per pound net, with a discount of 1 per cent for cash to dealers. In the same period of time green coffee has declined from 9 3-4 to 6 1-8 cents per pound.

The coffee used by these competing concerns is known as grade No. 8, though sometimes the still poorer grade of No. 9 is used. Agents of W. H. Crossman & Bro., who buy for the Sugar Trust, and Arbuckle Bros. are scouring the world for these low grades. Representatives of both firms are stationed permanently at Santos and Rio de Janeiro who have picked up this quality of coffee until practically the entire supply is in the hands of the two firms.

The Sugar Trust has thus far waged a losing fight. Not that they have cut prices below a profitable point, for there is still a liberal profit in roasted coffee of the grades used at 9 cents per pound. The fight was begun in order to forcibly persuade Arbuckles Bros. not to build the opposition sugar refinery which the firm had contracted for in Brooklyn. But the refinery is still being pushed to completion, and its expected output of 4,000 barrels daily will more than sweeten all the coffee the firm is placing on the market.

The greatest sufferers are the outside roasters of coffee, who have heretofore obtained good prices for the medium grades. In the rural districts and among the poorer classes the 9 cent coffee has been extensively purchased to the exclusion of the somewhat better grades roasted by the outsiders. Some of these firms, like McLaughlin & Co., of Chicago, have been compelled to follow the cuts in order to do business at all. Rather unwittingly the Sugar Trust has therefore upset all its own theories of business, and is giving the public a chance.

The decline in green coffee is due almost entirely to the enormous crop now being harvested in Brazil. During the month of August the receipts of coffee at Santos, Brazil, were 1,032,000 bags, against 643,000 bags the same month last year, and at Rio 632,000 bags as compared with 353,000 bags the year previous. This makes a total during that one month of 1,664,000 bags against 996,000 bags in August, 1896.

BURNED AT DOCK.

Ship's Cargo of Oils Went With a Flash.

New York, Nov. 24.—The full rigged ship Port Patrick, of the Port line, Glasgow, Scotland, Capt. Frank Haud, was almost wholly destroyed by fire at her dock in the East river to-day.

Her cargo valued at about $100,000, was also destroyed. The cause of the fire is unknown. It broke out in the forward lower hold and spread so quickly that the crew of 12 men and the captain and the mate had barely time to get ashore alive.

The Port Patrick arrived here from Java on Oct. 9 with a cargo of sugar. She had discharged her cargo and was being loaded with oils and other materials for Australian ports. She was to sail from here on Dec. 5. Among other things stored away in the hold were 25,000 cases of kerosence, each case containing 225 gallon tins. There were thousands of barrels of other oils.

The fire was discovered by the watchman on the upper deck while the crew were all asleep. The watchman gave the alarm and the crew scrambled out from their bunks as best they could and made for the gangway to the pier. In a few seconds the big ship was enveloped in a thick cloud of smoke, which poured out from the hatchway. The fire boats New Yorker and Havemeyer soon had a dozen streams playing on the burning vessel, but with little effect. The firemen forced their way on board through the smoke, ripped up the hatches and poured such streams of water into the holes that it seemed as if the vessel would sink from sheer weight of water. Two tug boats which were lying beside the Port Patrick were towed out into the river. After about three hours work, when the firemen were congratulating themselves upon having the fire under control, a terrific explosion sent debris flying in every direction and knocked the firemen off their feet. Several of the firemen had narrow escapes from falling into the smoke filled holes, and one was overcome. He was dragged ashore by his companions as soon as they regained their feet. The first explosion was followed by a second and a third, and gradually the vessel began to sink, until there was scarcely anything left of her above the water.

The Port Patrick was built in Glasgow eight years ago by the Russells. She was 268 feet long, 38 feet beam, 22 feet draft. She was a full-rigged steel clipper. She was valued at about $100,000.

PEACE AT LAST.

Miners Win Victory in the Illinois Coal Strike.

Chicago, Nov. 27.—The coal mining strike in the Illinois district ended yesterday. Twelve thousand men have gone back to work in the Coal City, Braidwood, Carbon Hill, Spring Valley, Lodi, Seatonville, LaSalle and Oglesby field. One thousand men remain out at Streator, the only point where miners and operators have not agreed. A settlement there is expected within a week.

Victory is with the miners, although they have not won all they asked.

Iowa Sand Geyser.

Eldora, Ia., Nov. 27.—The marvelous sand geyser discovered by Prof. C. E. C. Stoner, of Estherville, at Eagle Lake, north of here, is still blowing and emitting sand, stones and gas, there being no way to stop the flow. The gas emitted has been explained by the state geologist to be carbon dioxide gas.

MISSIONARY RIDGE.

Anniversary Celebrated by Dedication of an Illinois Monument.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 25.—To-day is the thirty-fourth anniversary of the Missionary Ridge, one of the bloodiest and most daring conflicts of the civil war, and was commemorated by the Veterans' Club of the Nineteenth Illinois Infantry with the dedication of a monument to the memory of the brave comrades who fell in that battle. Two carloads of veterans arrived here early this morning from Chicago and participated this afternoon in the dedicatory exercises.

The monument is an oblong piece of granite, very similar to the one erected by the state of Illinois on the field of Chickamauga. On one side is an acorn, the badge of the Fourteenth Army Corps. On another side is a bronze tablet bearing the names of the officers. On the third side is a bronze base relief, the work of Miss Julia Bracken, a Chicago sculptor, and which depicts the assault on the Ridge. It shows Captain Bremner, who is one of the participants to-day, bearing above his head the flag which three color-bearers had lost their lives in protecting while making the ascent. The tablet shows him in the act of scaling the breastworks, and behind him are other officers and soldiers, rushing over the dead bodies of their comrades. The ground upon which the monument stands is, as near as can be located, the point where the top was reached on that memorable day.

A GOOD PRACTICE.

If You Want a Good Appetite and Perfect Digestion.

After each meal dissolve one or two of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets in the mouth, and, mingling with the food, they constitute a perfect digestive, absolutely safe for the most sensitive stomach.

They digest the food before it has time to ferment, thus preventing the formation of gas and keeping the blood pure and free from the poisonous products of fermented, half-digested food.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets make the complexion clear by keeping the blood pure.

They increase flesh by digesting flesh-forming foods.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets is the only remedy designed especially for the cure of stomach trouble and nothing else.

One disease, one remedy, the successful physician of to-day is the specialist, the successful medicine is the medicine prepared especially for one disease.

A whole package taken at one time would not hurt you, but would simply be a waste of good material.

Over six thousand men and women in the state of Michigan alone have been cured of indigestion and dyspepsia by the use of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Sold by all druggists at 50 cents for full sized package.

Send for free book on stomach diseases to Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

PACIFIC CABLE.

What British Capitalists Propose to Establish.

New York, Nov. 26.—A Washington dispatch to the Herald says:

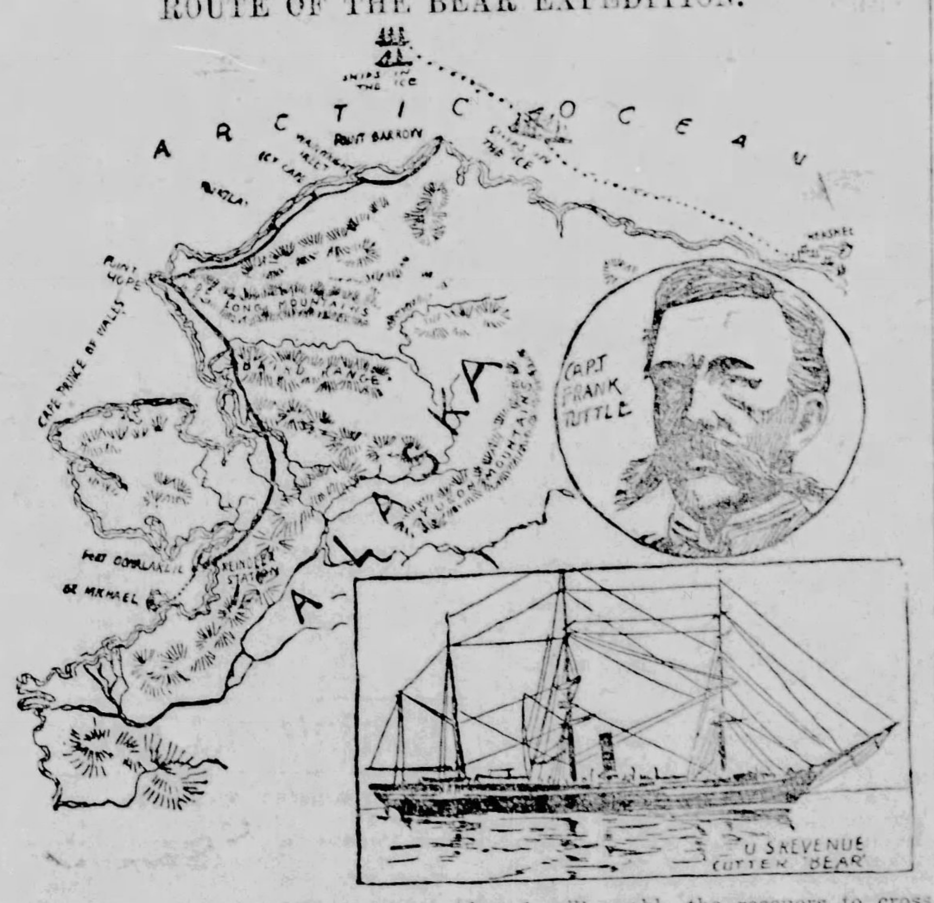
It is the desire of the British government that the United States shall authorize a British company to land a cable on one of the Hawaiian islands, this cable to connect Canada and Australia. Such authorization is opposed by the French government, on the ground that the laying of a cable with British capital, would place Great Britain in control of a telegraphic system reaching around the entire world, and that in the event of war before a message could be transmitted the British government's consent would have to be obtained.

In case Great Britain were engaged in hostilities, a diplomat pointed out, it would be practically impossible for France to send a message over any cable which did not pass through British territory, except that which connects France and Cape Cod, Mass.

M. Patenotre has made representation on the subject to Secretary Sherman, who said he did not think it would make much difference; this government could use the cable if it desired and in case of necessity an opposition line could be established. The French officials, however, point out that in case of war between the United States and Great Britain it would find itself seriously handicapped if the cable were under British control.

Information has reached here that agents of the British company interested in the cable enterprise and the consul general of Great Britain in Honolulu are making a determined effort to secure a recommendation from the Dole authorities to the United States that the British company be allowed to land a cable. Mr. Sewall, the diplomatic representative of this government to Hawaii is wholly opposed to the granting of such permission on the ground that such action would be prejudicial to the interests of his government. It is impossible for the Dole authorities to give permission to lay a cable on account of the reciprocity treaty between Hawaii and the United States.

ROUTE OF THE BEAR EXPEDITION.



Washington, Nov. 24.—The government has been informed that there is sufficient food on board the imprisoned whalers and at the supply station at Point Borrow, to provide food until the ice packs breaks next season.

The Bear goes north insufficiently provided with equipment to make a voyage to the Arctic in midwinter. The ship cannot approach within twelve miles of the land. The gloom of an Arctic winter will overhang sea and land. The ship has no searchlight provided by which landing parties can direct their way over the pack ice to the shore. A rough sledge journey will be necessary.

The Arctic currents will sweep down through Bering Strait will clear the ice, except a limit of fifteen miles of the land. The hard work of the people on the Bear will begin when they arrive within fifteen miles of land. A herd of reindeer that will be carried on shipboard will enable the rescuers to cross the icefields.

As soon as word reached the Pacific coast that the whalers were locked in the ice and would all die, if not relieved, the government at Washington took immediate steps to rescue them. The revenue cutter Bear was ordered to make ready for a long cruise and to provide herself with everything necessary for the sufferers.

Capt. Tuttle, of the Bear, will take the cutter as far north as possible, and then Lieut. Ellsworth Price Bertholf, of the revenue cutter service, with a band of picked men, will start overland to the rescue. The government has ordered a herd of four hundred deer to be held in readiness for the arrival of the Bear, and these will be driven ahead of the travelers to provide food en route, and for the famishing sailors. Some of them will be used to pull sledges, and a great many dogs will also be pressed into service.

OUR LATEST CONTEST

A New Idea. $100.00 For Correct Lists.

1—OYEKWRN
2—OKRYRONL
3—AAILLHHPPED
4—STOSILU
5—MELTIOABR
6—BOONTS
7—TINNNICIAC
8—AOEKESNLWN
9—BUTTISHPGR
10—IMKUAELWE
11—NFACSOICSANR
12—RDTIOTE
13—SILVELLIUO
14—THERERCOS
15—BLUMSCUO
16—TROCWREES
17—GOICCHA
18—ATUIC
19—MEALS
20—MIAREL
21—THULDU
22—ATSAUUG
23—YNLN
24—SHIPMME
25—ATLPSU
26—EONINPSLIMA
27—VENEDCALL
28—RENNOTT
29—OATNDY
30—REFGILNSPID
31—LOPRATDN
32—TTAAANL
33—OFATHDRR
34—MSSENEIOD
35—ERWKAN
36—OAHAM
37—NRDVEE
38—DASNNIIILOPA
39—NBAALY
40—DOVERPECIN

Here is something new, read very carefully, you may get $100, in cash, or a Parlor Organ, or a Bicycle, or a Gold Watch, or a Garnet and Diamond Ring. We print here a list of words. These are sets of letters, jumbled, from which can be made the names of 40 Cities in the United States. For example OYEKWRN can be transposed into NEW YORK and so on down through the list. It will be found a hard study but if you stick to it you may get 20, or even 30, or perhaps all of the words correctly. We offer the following GRAND PRIZES To the person who sends a complete correct list, we will give $100. in money. To the person sending the next largest list, we will give a $100 Bicycle (ladies or gent's); for the next largest list, we will give a beautiful Parlor Organ; for the 4th largest list we will give a fine Gold Watch. If more than one person succeeds in making a complete correct list of words, the first prize of $100. will be divided between those who send the nearest lists. Also to each and every person who succeeds in making out at least 20 correct names of cities, we will give absolutely free as a Prize, one Elegant 3 stone solid gold plated ring, set with "2 Garnets and a Diamond." Ring is superb in its beauty. It is equal in appearance and every other respect to a Genuine $20.00 Ring, except intrinsically. The Ring is of gold plate, the settings are three carefully selected stones of exquisite brilliancy. They are made in such exact imitation that they defy experts. We have heard of rings similar this being pawned for big sums, we have seen rings just like this, for sale in New York, Boston & Chicago stores, as a "big bargain" at $2.50. Therefore, when you get this ring as a Prize for making out the names of 20 cities correctly, you will secure a most desirable and costly present. It doesn't matter where you live, you may enter this contest. With your list of names you must send us a silver quarter or 26 cents in stamps to pay for Home Treasury one full year. If you are already a subscriber, your subscription will be extended a year from date of present expiration, or you may have HOME TREASURY sent to a friend. It is a handsome illustrated monthly magazine, every issue replete with charming stories, sketches, free contests open to subscribers only, & numerous other entertaining features. When you subscribe, your life will be insured by us for 1 year, you will also be entitled to the benefits of Accident Insurance. These features alone are worth many times the price of subscription. Don't send a list of words unless you send your subscription with 25 cents silver or 26 cents stamps. Prizes sent same week that your list is received. Money promptly returned if you are not delighted. Address: HOME TREASURY CO., 249 Water St., Augusta, Maine

SOMETHING NEW--A FORTUNE FOR ALL.

$250 in GOLD FOR THE SOLUTIONS OF THE.... WORD PUZZLES

THIS IS NOT ALL Everyone gets an opportunity which may make them rich without work or effort..........

We are engaged in promoting a company to operate in the Gold Fields of the Klondike. The company has a special machine for placer mining that does the work of 150 men. Men working by hand have taken out $1000 per day and more. One instance shows $14000.00 for one man's work in one day. We want to put 40 of these machines at work; we want small investments of 25 cents each to use in promoting this enterprise. Every penny may bring back $10.00 in profits. We don't want to go through the slow method of getting large capital invested by a few persons, but prefer to get in communication with a large number who are inclined to risk a little for the probability of getting a fortune. In order to get into communication with half a million of that kind of people, we have got up the following contest: It gives you a chance to get $100.00 quick if you solve the problem, and an opportunity which may make you all the money you need in a lifetime, without work or effort.

HERE ARE THE WORD PUZZLES--CAN YOU SOLVE THEM?

No. 1. —O—D Something one may get in Alaska.
No. 2. A————A The name of a place where gold has been found.
No. 3. —A——————N Once president of a great republic.
No. 4. —LA— Something used on dinner tables, either as an article of food or an utensil.

EXPLANATION. Each of the skeleton words have dashes in the place of missing letters. You are required to fill in the spaces with letters to make as many complete words as possible which properly fit the definition. For example: No. 1, is —O—D, something one may get in Alaska; in the solution you would find G and L, thus making GOLD. In thinking what else one might get in Alaska you would certainly think of COLD, and so on, make all the words you can for each puzzle, using the skeleton and filling the spaces with other letters, so that the complete word fit the definition given. Get the 2nd, 3rd and 4th word puzzles in the same way. Do not send in words which do not fit the definition given.

REWARDS For complete solutions of the 4 word Puzzles we give $100 in Gold. If the answers are correct and complete to only 3, we give $50 in gold; if only 2 are correct and complete, $25 in gold, and to everyone sending only a partial solution we will give a credit of $3.75 on the first purchase they make from us.

CONSOLATION PRIZES $75.00 will be divided among 15 persons who answer this contest but whose answers are not entirely complete and correct, and will be awarded according to the number and correctness of the words in each answer.

THE CONDITIONS are that you send with your solution 25 cents to be invested in the promotion fund of this great Klondike Gold Mining Enterprise, for which you will receive an Investment Certificate, which may enable you to participate in the profits of the mines, and every penny may bring $10.00.

SOMETHING NEW We have headed this advertisement "Something New." You will find it different from most of the missing letter advertisements, because everything is stated plainly and there is no attempt to mislead, like so many others. We do not promise any impossible things to contestants, and advise you to beware of any advertisement which promises things which on its face is impossible. We will promptly do exactly as we promise and everything that by plain, ordinary meaning of this advertisement you have the right to expect. Should there be more than one full and complete set of answers we shall divide the rewards pro rata among them, but we promise in good faith that everyone who sends a full and correct answer shall actually receive a money reward promptly paid to them in cash.

BUT THIS IS NOT ALL Every one who enters this contest will receive an easy proposition by which they may have returned to them $5000.00 to $10,000.00 in gold, enough money to keep them comfortably for years.

No answers will be considered after 60 days from dates of papers in which this advertisement appears. Rewards will then be paid promptly in Gold. Publishers of papers or any bank or business house in Chicago will assure you of our Absolute Responsibility. Answer at once. Send silver or stamps. Address

KLONDIKE PROMOTION COMPANY, 80 to 84 Adams St., Chicago, Ill.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

AUTONOMY FOR CUBA.

Decree for New Government Officially Published.

Madrid, Nov. 27.—The Official Gazette this morning publishes the royal decrees granting autonomy for Cuba and Porto Rico:

Article 1 explains the principles of the future government of the two islands.

Article 2 decrees that the government of each island shall be composed of an insular parliament, divided into two chambers, while a governor general, representing the home government, will exercise in its name the supreme authority.

Article 3 declares that the faculty of making laws on colonial affairs rests with the insular chambers and the governor general.

Article 4 directs that the insular representation shall be composed of two corporations, with equal powers, viz.: a chamber of representatives and a council of administration.

Article 5 provides that the council of administration shall consist of 35 members, of whom 18 shall be elected and 17 be nominated by the home government.

Article 6 provides that the members of the council of administration must be Spaniards, at least 35 years of age, who were born in the island or who have resided there continuously for four years. It specifies numerous officials such as senators, presidents of courts, and of chambers of commerce and other bodies as eligible to election to the council.

Articles 7 to 14 inclusive deal with nominations and the conditions of election to councils.

Article 15 empowers the throne, or the governor general, to convoke, suspend or dissolve the chambers, with an obligation to reassemble them within three months.

Articles 16 to 28 deal with the procedure of the chambers and grant immunity to members.

Article 29 empowers the insular parliament to receive the governor's oath and make effective the responsibility of the secretaries forming the governor's council. Secretaries may be impeached by the chambers, in which case they are to be judged by the council of administration.

Negotiations for treaties of commerce are to be made by the home government, with the assistance of the secretaries of the island.

Article 39 confers upon parliament the imposing of customs duties.

Article 40 deals with the commercial relations of the islands with the peninsula and provides that no import or export tax may differentiate to the prejudice of the productions of either island or the peninsula. A list will be formed of articles coming from Spain direct, which will be granted favorable treatment in regard to similar articles coming from abroad and the same will be done for productions of the islands entering Spain, the differential duty in no case to exceed 35 per cent.

The remainder of the decree explains the governor general's powers. He will exercise supreme command, be responsible for the preservation of order, have free power to nominate officials, and his secretariat; he will publish and execute the laws and decrees, international treaties and conventions, etc., and will have the power of pardoning, suspending constitutional guarantees and ordering a state of siege should circumstances require it.

Spanish View of Autonomy.

Madrid, Nov. 29.—Three decrees have been received with conflicting impressions, but most Spaniards are disposed to accept the change as dictated by the necessities of the situation. Marshal Martinez Campos warmly approves the decrees and is willing to go to Cuba if necessary. Gen. Arezcarra reserves his opinion until he sees the effect of them upon the rebellion. The Carlist organ, El Correo Espanol describes the decrees as national treason. The organ of the extreme Conservatives, La Nacional, asks whether the nation will negotiate such a policy. Both these papers will be prosecuted for their utterances.

CUBAN MARTYRS.

Innocent People Were Victims of the Butcher Weyler.

New York, Nov. 29.—A despatch to the World from Havana says: The World's first figures of Cuba's starvation were timidly moderate. They showed the death of only 200,000. But every painful fact unearthed tends to prove them nearly double that number. When the grim returns are all in it is now almost certain that this Cuban massacre of the innocents will reach 400,000. And this awful loss does not include those killed in a battle or the thousands of women and children who have died of exposure, disease and massacre in the "Managuas" and swamps.

It now seems certain that more than half a million people, for the most part, loyal subjects of Spain, have been killed by Spanish war in Cuba.

A week's trip through the provinces of Havana, Matanzas and Santa Clara has tended to make moderate this tremendously extreme figure. The figures of Spanish official reports show but a part of the mortality. They only give the number buried in consecrated ground—they do not give that fully.

And, yet, these official ultra-Spanish reports of burial permits issued admit that in the province of Santa Clara there have died and been buried since Weyler's fiat 71,847 persons.

The number of people for whose existence Weyler is directly responsible is 155,132 in Santa Clara province and of these, he has killed 86,216, or over one-half of them.

Santa Clara has so far been by far the least destitute of the provinces. It has many cattle and not a very thick population. Between its fifty-three per cent dead to Pinar Del Rio's admitted eighty percent mortality, respectively. These figures are equalized by the almost actual figures in some thirty cities and towns. Applied to the denser populations of the respective provinces, the total deaths since Weyler's "bando" will foot up nearly a million.

MASO, THE CUBAN.

Gen. Blanco Disconcerted by His Election as President.

Havana, via Key West, Nov. 26.—Gen. Blanco has sent the following dispatch to the minister of the colonies, Senor Moret, in Madrid:

"The election in the Manigua of Bartolome Maso as president greatly complicates matters with regard to a peaceful settlement in the east. He is stubborn, and proud of his tenacity, which gives him some popularity among the young men in the Cuban ranks. Any attempt to approach him, will, in my opinion, be unsuccessful, and, furthermore, the risk would also be incurred that he would surely avail himself of the occasion to make a noise and pose once more as an irreconcilable."

This dispatch was delivered by mistake to the press censor, and through his carelessness, fell into the hands of the correspondent.

Gold From Australia.

Sydney, Nov. 24.—The steamer Moana, which has sailed for San Francisco, took 175,000 pounds in gold.

—Medical men say rheumatism is the forerunner of heart disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures rheumatism by its action on the blood.

BURNED AT THE STAKE.

Chained Between Two Trees a Negro Sizzled in Flame.

Southport, N. C., Nov. 29.—A white boy was brutally murdered by a negro man, and the murderer burned to death by an infuriated mob of white farmers here last Thursday night.

During the fall a party of farmers had been mullet fishing on Therry Grove beach, near Little River. On Monday, November 15, one of the farmers' boys by the name of Stephens left for his home on the Waccamaw river with an ox and cart, carrying a package of money. The father of Stephens went home Friday, but found nothing had been heard of his son since he had left the beach.

It was learned that a negro man named Nathan Willis had borrowed a gun and left the beach shortly after Stephens' son had departed for his home. A posse was organized by the sheriff and Willis was traced about thirty miles to Town Creek, where he was found on last Wednesday, having in his possession Stephens' ox, cart, clothes, and hat full of shot holes. He was carried by the sheriff and posse back on Thanksgiving day into South Carolina.

Reports came in to-day that Willis was taken from the sheriff on Thursday night by a mob of infuriated farmers and carried off into the woods, where he was chained between two box-faced pine trees. Light wood was piled around him and he was burned to death.

DORA HURT.

Fall From a Horse Injures Gen. Cass Clay's Girl Wife.

Valley View, Ky., Nov. 29.—Dora Richardson Clay, the girl-wife of Gen. C. M. Clay, of White Hall, spent Sunday at the home of her brother here on a bed of illness. William Bryant was attendant at her couch with other friends and relatives.

Mrs. Clay's doctor says that she is dangerously sick; that she is suffering from a fall she got when thrown from her horse about ten days ago. Gen. Cassius Clay sent her a basket of fruit, also a letter, and inquired as to her health and what doctor was attending her. He is very anxious about his wife's welfare, saying that he wants her to have proper medical attention.

LOST ART RECOVERED.

Tempers Brass and Makes Razors of Copper and Makes Hard Drills.

Boston, Nov. 24.—James H. Duffy, of Machiasport, Me., announces that he has discovered the lost art of producing Damascus steel, also the art of hardening copper and brass. This is the result of 10 years of experimenting with the metals in his village blacksmith shop. Mr. Duffy has made several broadswords of copper, keen edged and strong as steel. Also he has made knife blades and razors of copper. He says he has used a copper razor for months, and yet it shows no signs of dullness. Some Boston capitalists are said to have made offers for his secret. Duffy declares that he has also discovered how to weld copper, a thing hitherto unknown, and can temper quarrymen's drills so that they will outlast the ordinary drills by days. He says his secret is the simplest thing in the world, and says that every ironworker and every copper and brass worker treads upon it every day, but fails to see it.

SCENE IN THE REICHSRATH.

Free-for-All Fist Fight—Public Joins in the Clamor.

Vienna, Nov. 25.—The members of the lower house of the reichsrath yesterday excelled themselves in producing the most disgraceful scene yet witnessed in that branch of parliament. The turbulence resulted from a motion that only one of a number of similar petitions against an ordinance making the Czech language co-ordinate with the German in Bohemia, should be read and printed.

The members of the Left protested uproariously against the motion, stigmatizing it as oppressive and illegal. Finally the members of the lower house became so disorderly that President Abraham Ovics suspended the sitting and left the house, which was the signal for a scene of the wildest disorder.

Dr. Wolff, the German Nationalist leader, clambered up into the president's tribune, seized a heavy bell and swung it to and fro, materially increasing the disorder prevailing. The bell was, however, almost immediately wrenched from Deputy Wolff's hands by Deputy Polock. Challenges to duels, shouts of Billingsgate and other insults were exchanged on all sides until the interior of the house in every way resembled an inferno.

A number of young Czechs and Poles made a rush and attempted to tear Dr. Wolff down from the position he occupied, and they in turn were attacked, and a disgraceful scrimmage was the result.

During the preliminary scuffling some of the young Czechs struck Dr. Wolff, and this caused such an uproar that a regular pitched battle with fisticuffs followed, lasting for about a quarter of an hour.

Herr Schoenerer, leader of a section of the German opposition, caught hold of and brandished one of the ministers' arm-chairs and was evidently about to hurl it at the heads of his immediate opponents, when he was seized and disarmed.

By this time the disorder was of such a nature that even the public in the galleries cried shame upon the fighting, swearing and insult-exchanging by the deputies. A Polish member, Herr Polacz, rushed upon another member, Herr Pfereche, and was nearly strangling him when the latter drew a penknife and opened it, but he was disarmed by a colleague before any harm was done.

At this moment President Abraham Ovicz returned, but after repeated and vain efforts to quell the disorder, he closed the sitting of the house.

MARK TWAIN SAW IT.

Described in Graphic Words by a Great American Writer.

New York, Nov. 29.—Mark Twain cables to the World from Vienna: In the house on Thanksgiving day, in the midst of deafening tumult, I saw a motion read which nobody heard and passed by nobody knows whom, for, indeed, it was not passed at all. It was aimed at the obstructionists, and placed autocratic powers in the hands of the president of parliament. This was a victory for the government, but was unlawfully won and a simple usurpation. The logical result came with the resignation of the ministry yesterday.

I went early, arriving when the House was empty. In half an hour two or three hundred members were present on the floor, and the galleries were packed. I was in the gallery, exactly opposite the President's tribune and had a perfect view. There was not much noise. The atmosphere was charged with suspense and expectancy. All the vast house was holding its breath. A long wait, then a stir, a craning of necks, and by a door far to the right the president and vice presidents entered. The house rose, and a hurricane of insults and execrations burst from the opposition and blew them to their places. The Right answered back and both sides roared, and shouted, and stormed. Two dozen Socialists stood in a body below the ministerial desks and shouted up at the president and shook their fists furiously at him.

He uttered some words to the house. At least one could see his lips move, and he spread his large hand deprecatingly over his breast, for if he is a tyrant he has some beseechingly persuasively gestures not seen elsewhere but among the angels. That holy gesture seemed to madden the group of Socialists. All at once they plunged over the barriers and up through the ministerial benches, and one in a red cravat reached up and snatched the president's papers and another seized his bell. In a moment they were fighting and struggling with the uniformed servants of the House, who ejected them at the same time. Others of their group stormed up the side of the tribune, drove out the president and vices, and followed them all across the floor, hammering the latter with their fists, but I saw no blow actually reach the president. The Socialists came back and occupied the president's tribune and held it like a fort. The man in the red cravat gathered up an armful of the president's papers and threw them over the front in a sort of snow storm. In the meantime the whole house was howling, yelling and banging on the desks. A South African thunderstorm is solid silence compared to it.

"Rascals!" "Scoundrels!" These and less delicate epithets filled the air. All of a sudden that distant door opened, and down the floor of the brilliant and superb chamber came drifting the spectacle and flash of sixty spiked helmets, the most thrillingly theatrical I ever saw. I would not have missed it for the succession to the throne. Moreover, it was history, and belongs among the world's memorable days. This force was received with a tempest of execrations from the one party and victory notes from the other. Yet it was a heavy defeat for all concerned.

The handsome officer in command cared nothing for the reception. He requested the Socialists to retire. They declined. Then he stepped aside, and his men pulled, hauled and dragged the fighting and struggling garrison down out of their fort and out at the door, and the amazing drama was finished. In America this would have made trouble. It may cause a disturbance here, but not even the wisest man knows. There were some more scenes before the sitting closed, but they were nothing after the supreme tragedy.

SCENE IN THE AUSTRIAN REICHSRATH.

MINISTRY RESIGNS.

And It is Thanked by the Emperor for Resigning.

Vienna, Nov. 29.—The members of the Austrian ministry yesterday tendered their resignations by Emperor Francis Joseph, who accepted them, and intrusted Baron Gautsch, who holds the portfolio of public instruction of the retiring ministry, with the task of forming a new cabinet.

Emperor Francis Joseph addressed an autograph letter to Count Badeni, decreeing the adjournment of the Reichsrath until further orders.

It is stated here that as soon as the new cabinet is formed, Baron Von Gautsch von Frankenthurn, the former minister of public instruction and ecclesiastical affairs, who has been entrusted with the task of forming a ministry to succeed that of Count Casimir Badeni, which resigned yesterday, will enter into negotiations with the leaders of the Germans and Czechs, with the view of bringing about a modification of the ordinance making the Czech language co-ordinate with the German.

It is these ordinances that caused the riotous scenes in the lower house of the reichsrath, which in turn produced among the populace a ferment bordering on revolution, in consequence of which the Badeni ministry resigned.

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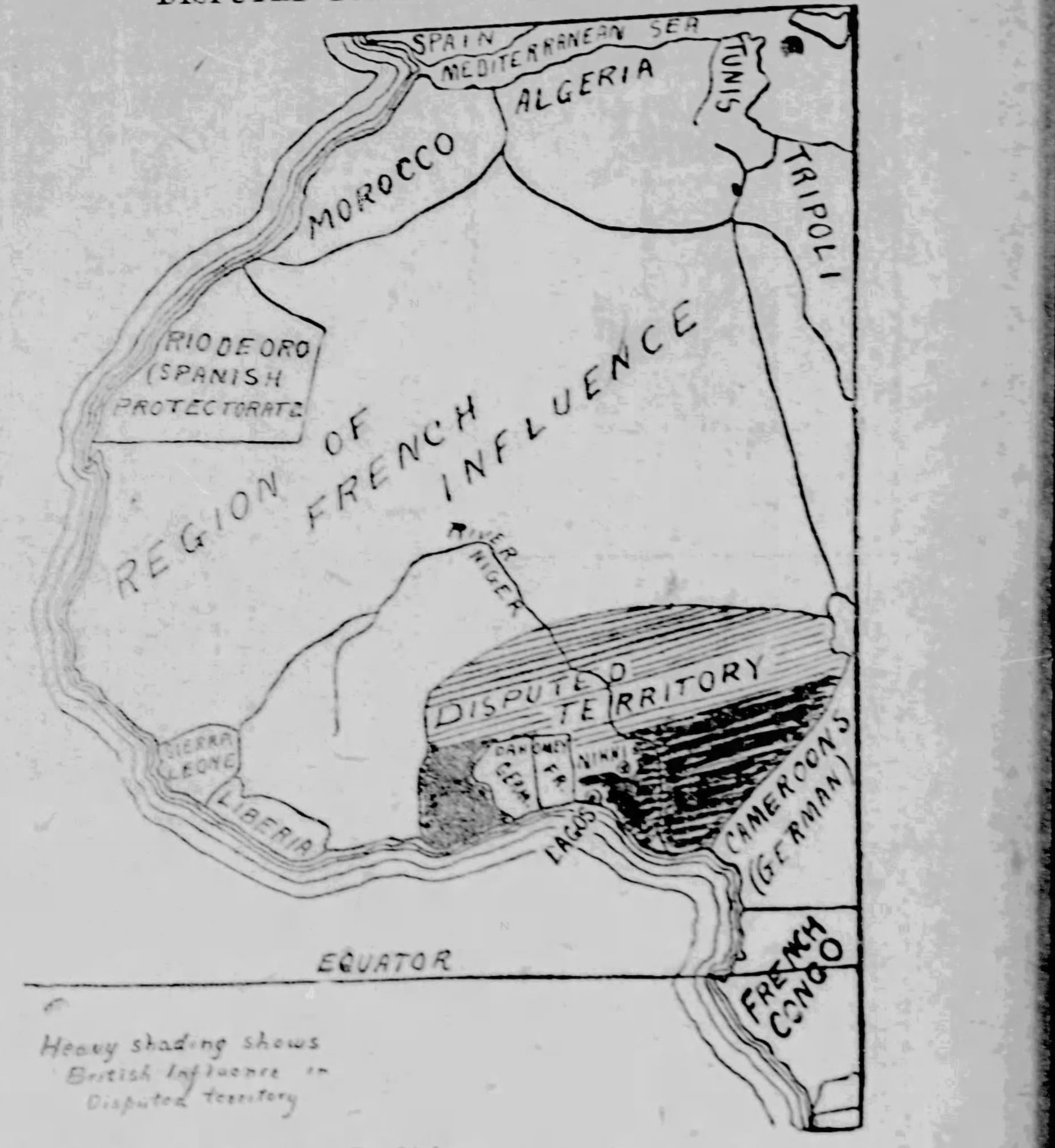

London, Nov. 30.—The Daily Graphic makes prominent this morning an announcement which, it claims, presents the views of the government as to the Anglo-French complications in the Nikki district of the Niger territory. It says:

Great Britain will carefully avoid imitating the French policy of exclusive occupation in the disputed territory. Although a small French force has occupied Kirhi, a disputed town, no attempt will be made to dislodge them, pending the discussions as to the boundary, now in progress in Paris.

The British force is being collected in the north of Lagos only to be ready for the occupation and organization of the Borgu district, which, it is expected, will be included in the British sphere as a result of the Paris conference.

The Lagos hinterland—"hinterland" being the term applied to the unoccupied territory intervening between the various African colonies—has been occupied by the British since 1861. Though the region is printed red on British colonial maps, however, that nation's influence has not been acknowledged by the French. North of Lagos is the country of Borgu, over which, by a treaty made in 1890, British influence in Borgu was recognized. The Yorubas of Lagos are practically subject to the inhabitants of Borgu. The Royal Niger company (which now has more than thirty steamers on the Niger and its tributaries), relying on the acknowledgment of British influence by France, made a treaty with the king of the brigands of Borgu. From France, however, came mutterings to the effect that this king was a vassal of the chief, whose seat was at Nikki. In the fall of 1894 the French sought to forestall the British by sending out an expedition to obtain a treaty with this king at Nikki. The Royal Niger company sent Capt. Lugard by forced marches on the same errand. The Britons won the race and the treaty.

Capt. Lugard declares that the ends of France is seeking in its northwestern and central African policy are:

"Access to the navigable waterway of the Nile as an outlet for the trade of her central African possessions, a claim she would be certain to advance if she had a station on any navigable tributary to the Nile.

"Extension of her African empire from the Atlantic to the Red sea, an extension for which she has long been energetically preparing from her base at Obok and Tanjurrah, opposite Aden, and by agents in Abyssinia.

"The embarrassment of England in Egypt by the acquisition of the upper Nile and the control of the waters of the river."

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WASHINGTON.

FOR COAST DEFENSE.

United States Building the Biggest Gun in the World.

Washington, Nov. 27.—The largest cannon in the world is now being built at the Bethlehem iron works in Pennsylvania for the protection of New York harbor. It is to be placed upon Romer shoals, near the entrance to the bay, upon a massive foundation of stone and concrete, reaching 50 feet below low water mark and protected by a turret which will be large enough to shelter both the cannon and the quarters of the crew. It will be mounted so it can be pointed in any direction, and thus have a full sweep of all the channels that approach the city. A single shot from this gun will utterly destroy any vessel afloat, and human ingenuity has not yet conceived anything that would be able to resist the force of its projectiles.

It will require 1,000 pounds of powder for every discharge and will carry a projectile of steel weighing 2,300 pounds in almost a straight line more than 16 miles. At that distance the projectiles will have a striking energy equal to the force of a 2,500 ton ship running at 20 knots an hour.

The largest instruments of war now in existence are two cannon mounted at the mouth of the harbor of Spezia, near Genoa, where the Italian government has its naval arsenal. They weigh 120 tons, which is about the weight of the monster that was exhibited by the Krupp company at the World's Fair. The new gun for Romer shoals will be six tons heavier and five feet longer and represents several important improvements which have been discovered or invented since the Italian and Krupp guns were made.

There is a 16-inch gun in the Great Britain fortress at Gibraltar, supposed to be the strongest in the world, but is rather old-fashioned. Tourists are always taken to see it, however, and enterprising little "Gibs," as the citizens of Gibraltar are called, are usually on hand to crawl through the bore from breech to muzzle for coppers. This Gibraltar gun is said to have carried a "jubilee" shot 12 miles last summer.

KILLED BY SAVAGES.

Horrible Fate of Two Americans in Africa.

Washington, Nov. 29.—A startling and horrible story of the killing of two Washingtonians, Lindsay G. Burke and Mr. Mellen, and the mutilation of their bodies by the natives of the Congo Free State, has just been received here in a letter to Mr. Leo Harmon, of this city. The men were members of a party who during November and December, 1894, and January, 1895, went from this city to enlist in the Belgian army for service in the Congo state. The information received by Mr. Harmon is that last December, Burke and a party of fifty natives, who were sent out to dislodge a band of dwarfs who had revolted, were ambushed and killed. An Arab, who was with the command, states that the most hideous looking little man he ever saw, walked up and cut Burke's head off with one blow of a knife. The chief then began to slice pieces off his legs and arms, and to distribute them among his followers. There were so many of the fiends that the pieces were very small, and before they had concluded, there was a free fight to see who could get the little remaining. In some manner the dwarfs became alarmed and left the place, one fellow carrying off Burke's arm.

Mr. Mellen was killed on March 1, when the troops under command of Baron Dhanis, revolted near Kabanbarre, and assassinated a number of officers of their regiment. His body was butchered almost beyond recognition, his heart having been cut out and burned so that his courage could not again be used against the rebels by the whites. It is their belief that unless the heart is burned and the ashes scattered to the four winds, the spirit of the man descends to his brethren.

RATHER GOOD

Will Be the November Report on Government Finances.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The forthcoming November statements of the government receipts and expenditures will show that the receipts during November so far have reached $22,950,890, which indicates a total of about $25,000,000 for the month. This is a trifling improvement over October, when the receipts were $24,391,415. The deficit thus far during November stands at $8,572,109, which is larger than was expected.

The deficit for the fiscal year stands at $46,581,120, the receipts having been $127,701,160, and the expenditures $174,282,280.

The receipts from customs so far this fiscal year undoubtedly will fall considerably short of the estimates made by the managers of the new tariff bill during its pendency in congress. At that time it was estimated that the customs would yield about $180,000,000 during the first year. The indications now are said to be that receipts from this source will not aggregate more than $165,000,000.

Work on Appropriations.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Work on the appropriation bills for the coming session of congress was formally started yesterday when a sub-committee of the house appropriations committee began consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. It was decided to hear the heads of the several departments on the items in the bill.

Message Not Completed.

Washington, Nov. 29.—President McKinley has not yet completed his message and is still engaged upon some important features of the documents. Owing to giving so much time to the message, he saw few visitors to-day.

Gen. John Mason Dead.

Washington, Nov. 30.—General John R. Mason, a veteran of the Mexican and civil wars, died here last night, aged 73. He was retired in 1888.

GRAPE PHYLLOXERA.

New Swiss Discovery That Has Proven Successful.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Grape growers in the Northern Ohio belt and elsewhere will no doubt be greatly interested in the discovery of a new agency for the preservation of their vineyards from pests of all kinds. In Switzerland, where grape culture comprises one of the leading pursuits of the population, a composition called phylloxerol has been produced, and it is said to have proven a very efficacious exterminator of the minute organisms which feed upon and destroy grape vines and other forms of vegetation from which the agriculturists derive a sustenance.

In a report submitted to the State department to-day, Benjamin H. Ridgely, the American consul at Geneva, Switzerland, tells about phylloxerol and the success of its application. He quotes extensively from "Suisse Liberal," a Swiss agricultural journal of national importance, and as follows:

"The means heretofore employed offer serious objections—as in the case of sulphine of carbon, which, besides being exceedingly dear and having a detrimental effect on the fertility of the soil, is not always very efficacious, according to the physical nature of the land. Not long ago a new composition was discovered, which appears to give much better results, and which is most easily employed. The name of this is phylloxerol.

"Phylloxerol not only destroys and removes the insects which attack the plant underground, but it acts besides as a fertilizer and takes the place of manure admirably. It is not only applied to the vine, but also to other plants we cultivate, such as potatoes, and is most effectual in killing white worms."

ATLANTIC DISASTERS.

Daring Rescue of the Crew of a Sinking Schooner.

New York, Nov. 30.—The Bristol City line steamer Exeter City, which arrived to-day from Bristol and Swansea, fell in with the British schooner Ellie, dismasted and in a sinking condition, and rescued the crew of five men and brought them safely to port. The steamer Veendam, which reached this port yesterday, reported having come upon the deserted schooner, which, to rid the sea of a danger to navigation, was set on fire by direction of the Veendam's captain.

Gloucester Mass., Nov. 30.—Tidings of the wreck and perhaps loss of the entire crew of the British schooner J. W. Geldert, which left Lunenberg, N. S., for Boston more than four weeks ago, was brought here to-day by the fishing schooner Edward Grover, the crew of which sighted the Geldert, abandoned and in a sinking condition, 30 miles southeast of Canso, C. B.

Delaware Breakwater, Del., Nov. 30.—The British steamer Glenochil, with hull stranded on the new breakwater while passing in the capes last night. Six feet of her bow lies on the stone and her bow is stove. She is hard aground with eight feet of water in her hold. The tug Protector is lying near the Glenochil, but there is but little prospect that she can be gotten off safely.

London, Nov. 30.—An unknown vessel has been wrecked on Boulmer rocks at Berwick on Tweed. All her crew were drowned.

London, Nov. 30.—Stories of wrecks, fatalities, and damage done by yesterday's storm continue to be received to-day. All the bays and ports are full of shipping, more or less seriously damaged. Such sights have not been seen for many years. Several of the inland towns of Kent are still flooded and a long time must elapse before repairs can be made.

The seaside resorts, naturally, have fared the worst. At Margate alone the damage done is estimated to amount to amount to 50,000 pounds and at South End the loss was 30,000 pounds. Reports received from other seaside places. Severity of the weather prevailing in Durhamshire can be gauged by the finding of the frozen body of a laborer who lost his way in a snow storm.

Five artillerymen from Shoebuyness, who were sent out to search for a boat in which six gunners, were picked up last night by the Allan Line steamer Austrian, after their boat had been stove in. It is feared that the boat containing the six gunners was swamped and that the men were drowned.

The Ramsgate Lifeboat, with a tug, the two vessels having a score of men on board, went to assist a vessel in danger of the Goodwin Sands, has not been heard of for 24 hours.

A BRAVE ENGINEER

Saved His Train From a Gang of Desperate Robbers.

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 24.—A special to the News from Dublin, Tex., says:

The regular west-bound train on the Rio Grande came into this place at 3:10 p. m. with more passengers than usual. When about three miles west when rounding a curve into a deep cut, the engineer discovered the track to be obstructed by a pile of rock about three feet high. The engineer reversed his engine and suddenly stopped his train and in an instant started to back to this city. As the train slowed up four robbers surrounded the train and ordered all hands up, but seeing the train move backward they opened fire on the engineer, who had crouched behind the boiler to avoid their bullets. Many shots were fired, but no one was hurt. Considerable excitement prevailed among the passengers. All made frantic efforts to conceal their valuables. The men wore no masks. A posse was organized and conveyed to the scene at once. The crowd showed their appreciation of the engineer's bravery in a substantial manner.

YANKEE SOLDIERS

Need Not Look for Sympathy From People of Georgia.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 29.—The Georgia legislature has just killed a bill which provided for granting free license to Yankee soldiers who might now be living in the state. Two men spoke in favor of the bill, but their speeches received little attention. Several members who opposed the bill said that they loved the Union and had no feeling of hostility against the North or against the men who fought against the South in the days of the civil war, but they were unalterably opposed to a measure that would be a reward for the men who came to Georgia in 1864 and burned the homes of the people who are expected to help and pension the Union soldiers. There was no hostile sentiment uttered against the North during the whole progress of the agreement, but the members seemed to regard the bill as ridiculous.

WON'T PAY BLACKMAIL.

Effort to Suppress Highbinders in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Nov. 26.—The Chronicle says the Chinese merchants of this city have combined to suppress the murderous highbinder societies. These business men have signed a compact not to submit to further blackmail, and without their usual income the highbinders will be forced to go to work.

Over twenty highbinders' societies are affected by this arrangement. While the exact membership of these societies is not known, it is expected to be in the neighborhood of 1,500. All of these are not fighting men, but they have been affiliated with the Tongs, and have been furnished money when occasion demanded.

OKLAHOMA STATEHOOD.

People of Nearly Every County in the Territory Pass Resolutions.

Perry, Ok., Nov. 30.—Congress will be asked to make Oklahoma a state at the coming session. The people of nearly every county in the territory are holding meetings and passing resolutions favoring immediate statehood. Oklahoma has over three hundred thousand population and her assessment amounts to nearly 30,000,000. The advocates of statehood argue that nearly one-half of the states were admitted with less population and less wealth. The reason for desiring immediate statehood is to insure the annexation of Indian territory to the new state and the different reservations are thrown open to white settlement.

Another Steamer for Alaska.

New York, Nov. 29.—The steamship South Portland, formerly the Caroline Miller, which was once seized as a filibuster, has been purchased by a syndicate, and is to be put in commission for services between Seattle and St. Michaels. The South Portland, being of light draught, will at times be able to navigate the Yukon. After being fitted out in Brooklyn, she will carry a suitable cargo and passengers from this port to Alaska.

CONSUMPTION AND LUNG TROUBLES CAN BE CURED.

A scene in the Slocum Laboratory, New York City, illustrating to Medical Men and Students the Value and Curative Powers of his New Discoveries.—Sketched for Toledo Blade.

NOTE.—All readers of The Blade can have Three Free Bottles of the Doctor's New Discoveries, with complete instructions, by sending their full address to T. A. Slocum's Laboratory, 98 Pine St., New York City.

MURDERER THORN

Testifies That Mrs. Nack Killed William Guldensuppe.

New York, Nov. 29.—Word was passed around among the women who appeared at the Queen's county courthouse to-day to seek admission to the Thorn trial that much of the evidence which the defense would introduce would be unfit for polite ears. The result was that only three women were among the spectators when Judge Maddox re-opened court for the trial of the alleged murderer of Guldensuppe.

The defense called several witnesses to testify to the prisoner's good character and after a short recess Thorn was put upon the stand to testify in his own behalf. Beginning with the statement that he came to America 17 years ago, the prisoner said that his real name was Torceswisky and briefly related the facts of his life up to the time he met Mrs. Nack, 18 months ago. Guldensuppe was boarding with Mrs. Nack at that time.

"I rented a furnished room from her at two dollars a week," said Thorn. "Later I understood Guldensuppe was her husband. She first made love to me and I returned her love. I was very fond of her and loved her up to the moment she took the witness stand on my first trial."

The prisoner then told how he supplemented the bath rubber in Mrs. Nack's affections and described the row he had with Guldensuppe in consequence last February. During this row Guldensuppe caught hold of him. Thorn held a revolver which went off accidentally. Then Guldensuppe took the pistol from him and gave him a beating. The prisoner left the house and went to a hospital. Mrs. Nack met him afterwards very often and they went to theatres and other places of amusement. She said she was sorry that Guldensuppe had hurt him but that he must not heed that. Thorn, at the suggestion of his counsel, then told in his own way what Mrs. Nack had said to him after that. The court directed Mr. Howe not to lead the witness.

"Mrs. Nack told me," said Thorn, "that she wished to leave Guldensuppe and wished to live in some quiet place. We visited the Woodside cottage, and as it seemed a suitable place, we hired the cottage. I paid the $15 and got the key. On the 24th of June I gave the key to Mrs. Nack, as she said she wanted to do some cleaning at the cottage. About 11 or 12 o'clock on Friday morning, June 25, Mrs. Nack met me at the door. She said, 'I have Guldensuppe upstairs.' I asked her what he was doing there. She replied, 'He is dead; I have shot him.' She then requested me to help her to dispose of the body. I went upstairs and helped to undress the body. Then we carried it to the bath tub. I went out and bought some plaster of paris. When I came back she began cutting up the body. She cut the head off with a knife. When she reached the back of the neck, she cut through that portion with a small saw. Then she cut through the middle of the body, and then I asked her why she cut so. She replied: 'I know enough not to cut through the bowels.' Next she cut off the legs, after which she went out for a while, as it was very warm in there. On her return we encased the head in the plaster of paris. We brought away the dead man's clothes in a bundle, and I carried the head in another bundle. The saw, knife and revolver were in the bundle with the clothes. We took the car to Ninety-second street ferry, over which we crossed to New York. I threw the head overboard while the boat was crossing the river. Then we went to Mrs. Nack's house on Ninth avenue, where she burned the clothes in the cooking stove."

The witness then told of the surrey ride on the following day, Saturday, June 26, and the disposition of the other portions of the remains, which were wrapped up in oilcloth, cheesecloth and paper, which Mrs. Nack had purchased prior to her visit to the cottage on June 25, the day of the killing.

Thorn told of his meeting with the woman after this, and how Mrs. Nack had made preparations to go to Europe. Mrs. Nack met him on Tuesday night, June 30, and the following day he learned from the papers that she had been arrested.

During the time he was giving this direct testimony, Thorn looked directly at the jury. He spoke clearly and distinctly. His direct examination lasted three-quarters of an hour. Surrogate Weiler conducted the cross-examination.

Thorn continued his story of the doings at the cottage on the day of the murder, not differing materially from the accounts hitherto printed. Except that he admitted having lied to Capt. O'Brien as to his whereabouts on the day of the killing with a view to establishing an alibi. He said that he helped Mrs. Nack to undress Guldensuppe but heard no groan or anything that would lead him to believe that he was alive while being cut up.

CHICAGO TRAGEDY.

Brutal Husband Beat Out the Brains of His Wife.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Pauline Merry from her home, No. 50 Hope street, was solved yesterday by the confession of Thomas Hickey, who was arrested on suspicion. Hickey told a revolting story of how Christopher Merry choked and beat his wife a week ago last Friday. Then finding it impossible to restore his wife to consciousness, Merry decided to "put her out of her misery" by beating out her brains with a poker.

The horrible story told by Hickey was extorted from him after hours of questioning in the "sweat box." He led a party of police to an uninhabited portion of the city, near Eighty-seventh street and Western avenue where Mrs. Merry's body was found buried beneath a few inches of loose dirt by the roadside.

Patenotre Sails for Home.

New York, Nov. 27.—M. Patenotre, the newly appointed French ambassador to Spain, and who has represented France as ambassador at Washington, sailed to-day on the steamer Lachampagne for Havre.

Lieut. Robert E. Peary, the Arctic explorer, and Mrs. Peary, sailed on the steamer Lucania enroute for London and Edinburgh.

REPUBLICAN SENATOR

Certain to Be Returned From West Virginia.

Pitsburg, Nov. 27.—James Israel, staff correspondent of the Dispatch is investigating the political situation in West Virginia and writes his paper as follows from Charleston: Senator Mark Hanna said in a speech at Canton during the recent campaign that if Republicans elect the senators from Ohio and Maryland the United States senate would be Republican in 1899. West Virginia, with Pennsylvania, is one of the next states to choose a senator.

The Republicans here are confident they will select a man to succeed Democratic Senator Faulkner, and as there is no doubt about the Keystone state Hanna's prediction of a majority will be more than realized. The narrow escape of the country from being engulfed by the free silver tide has made reckless voters more thoughtful, and in this state the money question will enter largely into the contest between the two parties.

The little band of gold Democrats, about 5,000 in all, is not willing to surrender to the Bourbon silver horde and will likely co-operate with the Republicans, as they did in the last legislature, if fusion is necessary to secure Republican legislators.

Of the candidates mentioned for the senate Governor George W. Atkinson is the only one who is openly out for the place, and he conditions his candidacy on the ambition of Judge Nathan B. Goff. If the latter aspires Atkinson will retire. Speaker Edwards, of Charleston; Editor A. B. White, of Perkersburg, and Marshal Johnson are also spoken of as acting sly glances toward Washington. There are others, but they are all sawing wood.

DEMANDS MADE ON CHINA.

Germany Asks for Reparation for Recent Outrages.

Pekin, Nov. 30.—Inquiries made here in Chinese official circles confirm the statements contained in dispatches from Shanghai, giving the substance of the demands made by Baron Von Heyking, the German minister to China, for the recent murder of German missionaries and the destruction of the German mission property.

Germany, through her minister, asks for the discovery and execution of the murderers of the Missionaries Nies and Hennle; the punishment of the implicated officials, including the governor of Shan Tung province, in which part of Chine the mission was situated; the reconstruction of the missionary buildings, the payment of an indemnity of 600,000 taels to the relatives of the victims; the payment of a heavy indemnity to cover the expenses of the German naval expedition and the maintenance of the German force at Kiao-Chau Bay; the railroad monopoly of Shang Tung province, and the occupation of Kiao-Chau Bay as a German coaling station.

China will refuse the demands of Germany, but will express willingness to make ample reparation for the murder of the missionaries and for the damage done to the mission property.

Russia, it is understood, is not yet helping China, but the latter country has decided not to provoke hostilities and to trust to diplomacy for a settlemen of the dieulties which have arisen in connection with the mission outrages.

NEW MODEL CANNON.

Shrunk Jackets Replaced by Thin Steel Rings Driven On.

Chicago, Nov. 25.—Representatives of the British War department have been in Chicago in the last few days inspecting the model of a wonderful new cannon which is at present locked up in a vault in the New York Life building awaiting transportation to Washington and thence abroad.

Instead of one huge casting and a succession of jackets shrunk upon it—the process used in making all large cannon—this gun is simply a succession of thin steel rings forced upon the central tube by hydraulic pressure. If the gun is a success it means that big cannon in the future will cost but a fraction of their present value and that instead of thousands of dollars being expended in transportation of unwieldy pieces, monster cannon can hereafter be carried in sections as ballast.

The representatives of the British government went away convinced that the inventor had brought about a revolution in the manner of making cannon.

There is practically not a single piece of cast steel in the new gun. The expensive process of casting, one of the things which makes a modern cannon cost into the hundreds of thousands of dollars, is entirely done away with. Not having any castings, there can be no flaws, the terror of modern big gun manufacturers.

The largest piece of metal in the gun is the central tube containing the bore, which is nothing more than a thin steel tube, slightly conical externally, with the large end toward the breach. On this tube thin rings of rolled steel, the thickness of a buzz-saw, are forced by hydraulic pressure. In one respect the process is an exact reversal of the modern method of shrinking steel jackets upon the central tube of big guns.

The steel in a modern cannon, by the expensive system of casting in vogue, costs nearly $2.50 a pound. A big coast defense gun, like some the United States has been setting up along the Atlantic, costs from $100,000 to $200,000. The huge Krupp gun at the World's Fair cost $300,000, and thousands of dollars more to transport it.

Successor to Ordway.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The President to-day appointed Mr. George H. Harries, of this city, to be brigadier general of the militia of the District of Columbia to succeed the late General Ordway, former commanding officer of the District National Guard.

Boom Company "Busted."

Ashland, Ky., Nov. 30.—A general deed of assignment to Willis L. Ring, for some years back its general manager was made by the Ashland Improvement Company yesterday. The assets are $231,118. The liabilities are $140,702.

ONE BANK'S DEPOSITS.

Concentration of Business That Has Amazed Wall Street.

New York, Nov. 27.—In one of the most unpretentious looking banking houses in Wall street there has been within the last few months a growth of business so extraordinary that it has aroused the liveliest interest on the part of the down-town bankers and of financiers generally. The National City Bank, which in May last absorbed the Third National Bank, now has about $80,000,000 of net deposits. On Monday, Nov. 22, the gross deposits of this bank amounted to $111,000,000 in round numbers, and the bank's credit balance at the New York clearing house was $8,537,811. The unusual volume of last Monday's business is shown by the fact that the National City Bank had on that day sent to the clearing house checks on other banks aggregating $30,817,475, and the amount of the checks sent to the clearing house by other banks for collection from the National City Bank was $22,279,663. This day its transactions included the check for about $13,650,000 which formed part of the payment to the government for the Union Pacific railroad.

These figures are surprisingly large even for Wall street to contemplate. An aggregation of net deposits amounting to $80,000,000 in a single bank is extremely uncommon. Such a sum of deposits in a bank of discount is unprecedented in this country. This great accumulation of business by one bank has caused a flutter in down-town banking circles. Naturally, some of the banks feel its effects in a diminution of their own business. Rumors of prospective consolidations of comparatively weak banks have been many of late, and the figures of the officially published bank statements begin to tell significant tales.

James Stillman is president and A. Barton Hepburn, who was at the head of the absorbed Third National, is one of the vice presidents of the National City Bank. Although the bulk of the deposits in this bank is so great, the number of depositors is not uncommonly large, being less than 3,000. The list of depositors, however, includes the Standard Oil Company, two or three big trust companies, a great life insurance company, and some rich railroad corporations. Conservative bankers in this city are viewing with deep interest the remarkable concentration of capital in the National City Bank, and several predict that such an abnormal development in one quarter will disturb the conditions governing the business of other New York banks.

LOVERING IS GUILTY.

But He is Not Likely to Be Punished Severely.

Chicago, Nov. 26.—The Tribune to-day prints the following:

"The finding of the court martial is that the accused is guilty as charged in the specifications, and

"That he be reprimanded by the reviewing authority. The court is thus lenient in view of the good character of the accused as shown in the evidence."

The foregoing is, according to the statement of a man who knows, the exact verdict of the court martial which has just completed its labors in the case of Capt. Leonard A. Lovering, of Fort Sheridan, charged with brutal treatment of private Charles Hammond.

The finding of a court martial is secret under a solemn oath. The members of the court are sworn not to divulge the finding or discuss it until it has reached the proper authority, which in this case is President McKinley.

The Lovering court martial is the result of a direct order issued by the President, and he will be the reviewing officer in the case unless he surrenders the responsibility to Gen. Alger, secretary of war.

Lieut. Col. Hunter, judge advocate of the court, will have his record completed to-day, and this, with the finding will be forwarded to Washington to-night. It will probably be placed in the hands of the President Monday, and after its inspection by Gen. Alger and Gen. Miles, the finding will be given out officially. The public announcement will probably be made by Thursday of next week. It is, of course, known that the President may change the sentence recommended by the court martial.

VERY HOT STUFF.

Remarkable Address by Gen. Vincent Marmaduke.

St. Louis, Nov. 27.—General Vincent Marmaduke, of Sweet Springs, Mo., who was recently appointed by the ex-Confederate veterans of Missouri as chairman of a committee to write an authentic history of the part Missouri and Missourians took in the civil war, yesterday issued a remarkable address. It was addressed to the ex-Confederates of Missouri, and says in part:

"The honor and glory of this great struggle was with the South and Southern soldiers, ought, in justice to themselves and their dead comrades to preserve the memory of it. While the North and Northern soldiers are inveighing against all manifestation of sectional feeling, they are erecting monuments to their successful leaders, and telling the story very much to their credit and to our detriment. The North had more than four soldiers to one in the South. Its armies were reinforced and assisted by 600 ships of war, manned by 35,000 sailors. It had unlimited credit, which meant an unlimited supply of money. It had factories to manufacture everything needed to arm and equip, to supply and maintain its armies and fleets. It had railroads running in every direction for the transportation of its troops. It had intercourse with the whole world, and could draw recruits for its army and navy from the whole world. The South had none of these advantages, or had them only to a limited extent. But notwithstanding all its advantages it took the North four years to crush the South, and then it did it by a grinding process and without having gained a single decisive, decided victory."

Oleo War in Colorado.

Denver, Col., Nov. 29.—The grand jury has found true bills against several firms for selling oleomargarine. The Colorado Creamery Men's Association instituted the prosecutions. It is claimed that eight out of every ten retail grocers in the city handle oleomargarine.

AT LAST!

A CURE FOR CONSUMPTION, CATARRH AND LUNG TROUBLES THAT CURES.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY OF AN AMERICAN CHEMIST.

ITS GREAT VALUE TO HUMANITY.

HOW EVERY READER OF THE BLADE MAY OBTAIN THE NEW AND FREE SCIENTIFIC SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.

Correspondence-Advice Absolutely Free and Professionally Confidential.

The wide, unexplored field of modern chemistry is daily astounding the world with new wonders. Professor and layman vie with each other in their commendable efforts to lessen the ills of humanity. Yesterday it was Pasteur and Koch, and to-day it is Slocum, with a new discovery which has been the result of years of careful study and research.

Foremost among the world's greatest chemists stands T. A. Slocum, of New York city. His researches and experiments, patiently carried on for years, have finally culminated in results which will prove as beneficial to humanity as the discoveries of any chemist, ancient or modern. His efforts, which for years had been directed toward the discovery of a positive cure for consumption, were finally successful, and already his "new scientific system of medicine" has, by its timely use, permanently cured thousands of apparently hopeless cases, and it seems a necessary and humane duty to bring such facts to the attention of all invalids.

The medical profession throughout America and Europe are about unanimous in the opinion that nearly all physical ailments naturally tend to the generation of consumption. The afflicted die in the short, cold days of winter much faster than in the long, hot days of summer.

The Doctor has proved the dreaded disease to be curable beyond a doubt, in any climate, and has on file in his American and European laboratories thousands of letters of heartfelt gratitude from those benefited and cured in all parts of the world.

No one having, or threatened with, any disease, should hesitate a day. Facts prove that the Doctor has discovered a reliable and absolute cure for Consumption (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) and all bronchial, throat, lung and chest troubles, stubborn coughs, catarrhal affections, scrofula, general decline and weakness, loss of flesh, and all wasting conditions and, to make its wonderful merits known, he will send Three Free Bottles (all different) of his New Discoveries, with full instructions, to any reader of The Toledo Blade.

Simply write to T. A. Slocum, M. C., 98 Pine street, New York, giving full address.

There is no charge for correspondence. Advice—strictly professionally confidential.

Knowing, as we do, of the undoubted efficacy of The Slocum System of Medicine, every sufferer should take advantage of this most liberal proposition.

A system of medical treatment that will cure catarrh, lung trouble and consumption is certainly good for—and will cure—almost any disease that humanity is heir to.

Please tell the Doctor, when writing, that you read his generous offer in The Toledo Blade.

SUNDAY THEATRES.

Supreme Court Will Pass On the Michigan Law.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Nov. 25.—The Sunday anti-theatre law, which has stood on the statute books almost since Michigan became a state, will be reviewed by the supreme court. A show was given at the Grand last Sunday, and everybody engaged was arrested, and in the trials this week convictions have followed. The law provides a penalty of a fine, but does not give an imprisonment alternative, and the offenders refused to pay. In the police court an imprisonment of thirty days was prescribed as an alternative to the fine, and the validity of the imprisonment clause is the point to be tested. The circuit court was petitioned to release the prisoners on habeas corpus, and after a prolonged argument yesterday afternoon, the petition was denied. The case will be taken to the supreme court immediately.

Back to Mobile.

St. Louis, Nov. 26.—The general offices of the Mobile & Ohio railroad were taken from St. Louis back to Mobile to-day. A special train left Union station at 8 o'clock, haing on board the general officers, the clerks and employes and their families to the number of about 300. The officials and clerks have been away from their homes since September 15.

Can Marry Many Wives.

Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 26.—It has developed that the Alabama law does not prohibit polygamy, and the same is true of most of the other states. No married man can marry again, but a man can marry several wives simultaneously.

Markets and Crops.

WHEAT EXPORTS

As a Factor in the Business of the Week.

New York, Nov. 27.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: The heavy exports of wheat, with the renewed advance in price is the most interesting and important feature of the week's events. Since August, when the extent of the foreign deficiency became realized, exports have been larger than in corresponding weeks of any previous year. The cotton exports also have become very heavy, and the outgo of corn falls but little below last year's unprecedented record, while in exports of manufacturing products, especially machinery, all records for the season have been surpassed.

While the aggregate for November last year was over $100,000,000, shipments from New York for three weeks have been slightly smaller, with a fair prospect that the increasing cotton and other products from other ports may make up the deficiency. Meanwhile, imports are running behind last year's at New York nearly $2,000,000 this month, so that another excess of exports over imports amounting to about $60,000,000 for the month is probable. But this would make an excess of about $225,000,000 in four months. After the slight decline last Saturday, wheat rose to 100⅛c for November, with No. 2 red and other grades selling many cents higher. Yet Western receipts are of enormous magnitude in four weeks, 27,672,104 bushels against 9,214,038 in the same four weeks last year, while Atlantic exports, flour included, were for the week, 3,628,446 bushels, and for four weeks, 13,439,839 against 7,737,685 last year. The shipments from other ports have also been heavy, and nothing appears to change former estimates of European needs. Corn also continues to go abroad in quantities almost as large as last year, when all past records were broken, but the price has slightly declined.

Cotton declined to 5.81 cents, the lowest point for many years. More has come into sight this month than during the same time in 1894, from the largest crop ever raised. Print cloths and other staple goods, are at the lowest quotations ever known.

The iron industry shows no decrease in production or consumption of pig iron, but with much reduced orders for products, excess of production is expected, and Bessemer falls a shade to $10.15, and grey forge to $9.25 at Pittsburg, though Chicago and Eastern markets show no change. Billets are also weaker at Pittsburg, $15. Expectation of lower prices tends to produce them at a time when new business is naturally small and the mills are working mostly on old orders, with buyers impatient for deliveries.

The woolen manufacture is still consuming heavily in execution of past orders, and many agents are sold so far ahead that they seek no further business while others are beginning to question whether the demand for the next season will suffice if prices, are made to correspond with present quotations of wool. Some reduction in prices of wool appears, possibly averaging half a cent, with rates of Australian amounting to 2,700,000 pounds in a few large blocks in Boston but the tone is still strong. No change has occurred in the cotton manufacture, and the market for its products is still irregular.

Failures for the week have been 236 in the United States against 300 last year, and 25 in Canada against 36 last year.

Australian Crops.

Sydney, N. S. W., Nov. 29.—An unofficial estimate places the wheat yield of New South Wales, at eleven million bushels, and it is anticipated that the exportable surplus of wheat from Australia will be five million bushels.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Nov. 30, 1897.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Nov. 30.	Nov. 23.
U. S. 4's (new) coupons	128⅛	127⅞
U. S. 4's (new) registered	128⅛	127⅞
U. S. 5's coupons	114¼	114¼
U. S. 5's registered	114¼	114
U. S. 4's coupons	114	114¼
U. S. 4' registered	113⅜	112⅞
U. S. 2's registered	98½	....
Pacific 6's of '98	102⅝	102⅝

Condition of the Grain Market at the Close To-Day.

At the opening in the general markets to-day, December wheat started ¼@⅜c lower, and May about unchanged. Soon after the opening prices went off ¼c. Shorts then bought some wheat and the markets advanced ¼@⅜c. After this there was selling which, with heavy Northwestern receipts, broke prices ¼c from best figures. There was a predicted rise in the temperature, which was a bear argument, as it will keep the Duluth harbor open for wheat shipments. Chicago contract stocks of wheat increased 501,000 bushels during the week. Cables closed weak and the American markets at noon were devoid of strength, with prices off ¼c on December and ⅛c up for May. Bradstreet's report was an easing factor for a time.

Prices of wheat to-day:

Dec.	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.
Toledo	94	b94¾	93¾	b94¼
Chicago	95¾	96¼	95	95¾
New York	96⅞	197⅛	96⅞	b97
St. Louis	96⅛	97	96⅛	97

At Chicago November wheat sold for 95¾c; May, 91¼c; highest, 91¼c; lowest, 90⅞c; close, 91⅛c asked. At New York May wheat opened at 97⅛c, rose to 93⅛c, fell to 93⅛c, rose to 94c and closed at 93⅞c. At St. Louis May wheat opened at 92⅞c, rose to 93⅛@93⅜c, fell to 93⅛@93¼c, and closed at 93⅜c asked.

This afternoon the markets tended toward strength at the close, and were up ¼@⅜c from lowest point. As compared with the preceding day prices closed ¼c off for December and ¼@½c up for May. Trade during the day was only fair.

Export clearances of wheat to-day, 532,950 bushels; flour, 85,203 barrels; or wheat and flour as wheat, 929,864 bushels.

Bradstreet's shows world's visible increase 5,091,000 bushels.

Puts on May wheat at Chicago at 1:30, 90⅞c; calls, 91⅝c bid.

November oats at Chicago, 20⅝c; December, 20⅝c; high, 20⅝c; low, 20⅜c; close, 20⅝c; May, 21⅞c; high, 22⅜c; low, 21⅞c; close, 22⅛c asked.

Pork at Chicago for November, $7.15; December, $7.15; high, $7.25; low, $7.15; close, $7.15.

Lard at Chicago for November, $4.05; December, $4.05; high, $4.10; low, $4.05; close, $4.05.

Corn held steady throughout the day, fluctuations not exceeding ¼c. At the close prices were about ¼c under the previous day. At Chicago November corn was worth 25⅛c; December, 25¼c, high 25⅜c, low 25⅛c, close 25⅛c; May, 29¼c, high 29⅜c, low 29c, close 29⅛c asked. At New York December corn opened at 31¼c, rose to 31⅜c bid, then sold for 31⅛c; May, 34⅛c, 34⅜@34⅝c, and it close 34⅛c bid.

In three days (Saturday, Monday and Tuesday) the Atlantic side has cleared 2,437,000 bushels of wheat and flour. The week can hardly fail to exceed 4,000,000 bushels from the Atlantic side, and promises to beat all records for both coasts.

Primary receipts: Wheat, 1,114,000 bushels; same time last year, 383,000; shipments, 889,000 bushels; same time last year, 388,000 bushels. Receipts of corn, 711,000 bushels; same time last year, 273,000 bushels. Shipments, 876,000 bushels; same time last year, 342,000 bushels.

Paris wheat closed steady to 10 centimes lower, flour, steady to 20 centimes lower.

Antwerp wheat, steady to 25 centimes lower.

Liverpool wheat, quiet, but steady and ¼d to 1d lower than previous close.

The unofficial estimate of the wheat yield of New South Wales places it at 10 million bushels, and the exportable surplus of Australia is put at five million bushels.

Receipts in the Northwest to-day: Wheat, 775,122 bushels on track, 1,043 cars; same time last year, 316 cars.

The Close at Toledo—Wheat Higher.

Wheat, ⅝c up for cash and future delivery at the Toledo produce Exchange, as compared with yesterday. Trade rather dull, with prices firm on last sales.

No. 2 soft red wheat, 93⅝c, and close, 94⅛ bid. No. 3 soft red, 90⅜@91c, outside to close. December wheat, 94c, 93⅝c, and finally 94⅛c bid; May, 94c, 93⅝c, and to close, 94⅛c bid.

Corn—Active, Lower.

Corn was active and about ¼c off for cash and May, December unchanged. Prices closed steady. No. 2 mixed corn, 26⅛c; No. 4 corn, 25⅛c, 26c, then 25c; December corn, 26⅛c, and next 26⅛c; May, 29⅛c, and close 29⅛c.

Oats—Dull, steady. No. 2 mixed, 21⅛c; No. 2 December, 21c; May, 22⅝c; No. 2 white, 24⅛c.

Rye dull and about 1c lower, closing steady. No. 2, 46c, then 45½c; No. 3, 44c; No. 2 December, 46c; May, 50c.

Clover seed active, steady. Prime cash $3.15, then $3.12½; December, $3.12½; January, $3.15; March, $3.25@3.22½, less price to close; No. 2 seed closed at $2.92½; prime alsike, $5.10. Receipts, 610 bags; shipments, 480 bags.

Wonderful Prosperity of Kansas.

The Blade is indebted to Mr. F. D. Coburn, secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture for his final bulletin, issued November 24, showing the state's crop yields and farm values and the numbers and farm value of live stock for the year 1897. The total yield of winter wheat is 50,040,374 bushels, worth $32,798,612, or almost 100 per cent more than last year's crop. Its average yield per acre for the entire state is 15.07 bushels. The corn crop is 152,140,993 bushels, or 69,778,421 bushels less than in 1896, and its value $28,555,293, or $7,077,730 less. Of oats the yield is 23,431,273 bushels, an increase of 4,116,501 bushels. The value of the crop is $3,823,182; the increased value, $1,121,5[illegible]. The yield per acre, 23.82 bushels. Spring wheat shows a yield of 986,250 bushels, as against 601,523 bushels in 1896. Its value is $785,691. The combined home value of winter and spring wheat, corn and oats is $64,765,798. Of the same crops in 1896 it was $15[illegible] 071,920 less.

The Growing Winter Wheat.—The probable acreage of winter wheat sown the present autumn is about 3,545,000 acres, or an increase over the previous year of 16 per cent. An increase is reported from every county. In spite of an unusually dry fall in much of the state a large proportion of the wheat, even in those parts, has germinated, is growing and promises well. The price of wheat for the year averages for the state 75 cents per bushel.

Corn.—The prices at which the corn crop is being contracted to feeders and others in the cattle-raising and corn-raising counties averages 22 cents. Fifty-three per cent of the crop is likely to be sold at these prices before January.

An estimate of the cattle to be grain fattened shows practically the same as one year ago, with big increases in the heavy-yielding corn counties.

The values of the year's crops aggregated $136,335,920. The total values of live stock are $94,074,885, or, a sum total of $230,410,[illegible]

The net increase in value of this year's agricultural productions over that of 1896 is $30,043,248, and of live stock $30,508,985, total net increase of $40,554,231, or somewhat more than 21 per cent.

Horses have decreased in numbers to the extent of 45,414 head but the better quality and higher value per head of those remaining leaves their total value showing an increase of $2,151,723, or 10 per cent.

Milch cows have increased 37,467 head, and $2,848,921 in value, or nearly 27 per cent.

Other cattle show an increase of 78,659 head and a value greater by $11,771,239, or nearly 43 per cent.

Sheep have increased 10,197 head and are worth $142,220 more, or 33 per cent.

Swine are more by 366,601 head and in value by $3,473,307, or nearly 41 per cent.

The estimated increase in alfalfa sown in 1897 is given as 15,000 acres, or 10 per cent.

Grain and Produce.

New York, Nov. 30.—Butter—Receipts 7,32[illegible] packages; western creamery, 14@23c; Elgins, 23c; factory, 11½@14c. Cheese—Receipts 4,954 packages; market steady; light skims, [illegible]; part skims, 5@6c; full skims, [illegible]. Eggs—Receipts 8,403 packages; market firm; state and Pennsylvania, 20@25c; western, 23c. Sugar—Raw, firm; granulated [illegible]. Coffee, firm: No. 7, 6⅛c.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—Close.—Wheat—November, 95⅝c; December, 95⅝c, old, 9[illegible]; January, 92c; May, 91¼c; July, 84⅝c. Corn—November, 25¼@25⅜c; December, [illegible] 25⅜c; December, 25⅛@25⅜c; May, 29⅛c. Oats—November and December, 20⅝c; May, 22⅛c. Pork—November and December, $7.15; January, $8.20. Lard—November and December, $4.05@4.07; January, $4.22@4.25; May, $4.40@4.42. Ribs—November, $4.[illegible]; December, $4.15; January, $4.20; May, $4.[illegible]. Barley—Cash, No. 3, 25½@38c. Rye—Cash and December, 45¼c; May, 48½c. Flax—Cash, $1.04; cash Northwest, $1.09; December, $1.04; May, $1.08½. Timothy—Cash and November, $2.65; March, $2.80.

Live Stock.

Kansas City, Nov. 30.—Cattle—Receipts 8,000; market steady; Texas steers, $3.00@3.25; Texas cows, $2.25@3.00; native steers, $3.00@4.45; native cows and heifers, $1.40@3.00; stockers and feeders, $4.00@4.40; bulls, $2.00@3.30. Hogs—Receipts 8,000; market steady to 2½c higher; bulk of sales, $3.30@3.42½; heavies and packers, $3.25@4.[illegible]; mixed and lights, $3.30@3.47½; Yorkers, $3.[illegible]@3.45; pigs, $3.00@3.37½. Sheep—Receipts 2,000; market steady to strong; lambs, $3.00@5.55; muttons, $2.25@4.40.

Cleveland, O., Nov. 30.—(Bower & Bower's special report to The Blade. Hogs—Receipts 22 cars; market active and steady; all grades bringing $3.55; stags and roughs, $2.75@3.00, closing steady. Sheep and lambs—Market steady; sheep, $3.00@4.25; lambs, $4.00@5.50. Cattle—Receipts light; market steady; steers, $3.75@4.50; heifers, $3.00@4.00; cows and bulls, $2.00@3.25.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 30.—(Ebrick Bro.'s special report to The Blade.) Cattle—None on sale; feeling firm. Hogs—Receipts 30 cars; market active; Yorkers, mixed and heavy, $3.60; pigs, $3.65@3.70. Sheep and lambs—Receipts light; market 5@10c higher; top lambs, $6.10; sheep same as yesterday.

Chicago, Nov. 30.—Estimated receipts of hogs to-day, 33,000; left over, 5,000; market weak, mostly 5c lower; light, $3.35@3.50; mixed, $3.35@3.55; heavy, $3.[illegible]; rough, $3.20@3.30. Cattle—Receipts 4,500; market steady; beeves, $3.95@5.50; cows and heifers, $1.70@4.45; Texas steers, $2.75@4.00; stockers and feeders, $3.00@4.40. Sheep—Receipts 11,000; market steady. Official yesterday: Hogs, receipts 36,157, shipments 8,586; cattle, receipts 17,068, shipments 4,236; sheep, receipts 15,211, shipments 187. The market was active and stronger. Good fed western sheep sold mostly at $4.00@4.00, and natives ranged from $3.00@4.75. Some choice 94 lbs. lambs reached $6.00, quite a few at $5.85 and bulk at $5.00@5.50, with western at $5.30@5.70.

THE DAY ON WALL STREET.

Close of the Stock Market at New York This Afternoon.

New York, Nov. 30.—The tone of the stock market was very sluggish at the opening to-day and changes were very much mixed, losses being slightly more numerous than gains. Sugar and New Jersey Central opened up ⅛, but the former soon lost the gain.

The market strengthened soon after the opening under the leadership of Sugar and Manhattan. Sugar gained 1⅛ and Manhattan a little less. Towards the close of the hour People's Gas became heavy, which led to an easier tone in the general market.

Covering in Sugar rallied the price to the best of the morning, but the demand was not very brisk and the gain was soon lost. Pennsylvania loomed into prominence and improved over a point on the favorable October statement. Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis went up a sharp fraction in sympathy. The market generally sagged steadily with the grangers most conspicuous on account of the disappointing Burlington October statement. Prices of the group left a shade below last night's level. Sales of stocks to noon, 85,200 shares. Bonds were quiet, but well held.

New York, Nov. 30.—Money on call nominal at 1½@2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3@3½ per cent. Sterling exchange strong with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.86@4.86¼ for demand and at $4.83@4.83¼ for 60 days. Posted rates, $4.84 and 4.87. Commercial bills, $4.82½@4.82¾. Silver certificates, sales 11,000 ounces at 58⅝. [illegible] Barsilver, 58⅝c. Mexican dollars, 45⅝c.

Corrected daily by Kuhn & Co.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Del. & Hudson	108½	109	108½	109
Jersey Central	84⅝	85⅜	84½	8[illegible]
D., L. & W.	154	....	....	154
Reading	21⅞	22	21⅞	22
Tenn. Coal and Iron	24⅛	....	....	24⅛
Atchison pfd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
C., B. & Q.	94⅝	94⅞	94	9[illegible]
Missouri Pacific	[illegible]	29⅜	[illegible]	[illegible]
Northwest	121¼	122⅜	121⅛	122[illegible]
North. Pacific pfd.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Omaha	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rock Island	87⅝	88⅛	87⅝	88⅛
St. Paul	92⅝	92⅞	92⅜	[illegible]
American S. Co.	7⅝	7⅞	7⅝	[illegible]
Chicago Gas	92⅝	93	91⅝	9[illegible]
General Electric	32	....	....	32
Leather pfd.	62⅝	....	....	62⅝
Lead	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sugar	135⅜	137⅛	135	1[illegible]
Amer. Tobacco	80⅝	81⅝	80⅝	81
Erie	14⅝	....	....	14
Louis. & Nash.	54⅛	54⅝	54⅛	[illegible]
Manhattan	101	102⅜	101	1[illegible]
U. P. pfd.	33⅝	34⅛	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southern Ter.	28⅝	29⅛	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific Mail	29⅝	30	[illegible]	[illegible]
Western Union	87	87⅜	86⅞	8[illegible]
Wabash pfd.	17⅛	17⅛	17⅛	17[illegible]
C., C., C. & I.	33	33⅝	33	[illegible]
Canada Southern	53⅝	54	53⅝	54
New York Central	106⅝	107⅛	106⅝	10[illegible]

Trade.

The general trade of the country has shown no marked improvement during the past week. Most favorable reports are from the territory west of the Mississippi river, and north of Missouri and Kansas.

Wool.

Bradstreet's says of the past week's wool market: "The market has shown more activity in Australian wools, and some large lines have been cleaned up in Boston during the past ten days. The sales were fully 9,000 bales, and fully 75 per cent went to manufacturers. The London sales open this week with the prospect for higher prices and manufacturers have quietly bought these fine lines in anticipation. The prices ruling are about 4c to 5c below the accepted cost to import, and leading mill men look upon it as good business to buy. Many leading importers have sold out, and others would have done so if they would let the balance of the wool go at the ruling prices. Domestic wools are quiet, but the tone is firmer as a whole and dealers feel that their holdings are good property."

Dun's Review says: "The sales for the past week have been exceptionally small but for some heavy transactions in Australian wools in Boston, amounting to 2,437,000 lbs., more than a third of the sales at three markets for the week. It is said that the larger part of this wool was purchased by manufacturers, but that there was some speculative buying, and as to the price nothing more definite is stated than 3c to 5c per lb. It is presumed that concessions were made to secure large sales.

"Published quotations now show a somewhat general reduction in prices since November 1st, in many grades ½c per lb., and in others 1c, perhaps averaging nearly half a cent. The consumption decreases a little with the stoppage of some looms, and the manufacturers are the less disposed to buy at current prices as there is yet lacking so much demand for goods as to indicate that higher prices can be obtained for them. Demand for them has been increased by colder weather, but as yet not enough to make the outlook clear as to goods."

New York Cotton Market.

New York, Nov. 30.—The cotton market opened steady with prices 1 to 3 points lower in sympathy with an easier turn of the English market, ruled moderately active with firm undertone despite indications of a record-breaking port movement, estimated amounting to 100,000 bales. At 11 o'clock the market was quiet and steady at a net loss of 1 to 2 points. Sales to that hour were good sales. There was some new buying, both for local and southern account. Foreign representatives were the principal sellers. Talk of an increased export inquiry for spot cotton in the South added to the better feeling.

Cotton, futures opened steady; sales 4,[illegible] bales. January, $5.83; February, $5.72; March, $5.78; April, $5.83; May, $5.88; June, $5.94; July, $5.99; August, $6.02; September, $6.02; October, $6.06; December, $5.80.

Cotton futures closed steady; sales [illegible] bales. January, $5.69; February, $5.73; March, $5.78; April, $5.82; May, $5.88; June, $5.92; July, $5.97; August, $6.02; September, $6.02; October, $6.06; December, $5.80.

Cotton spot closed quiet; middling uplands 5 13-16c; middling gulf, 6 1-16c.

Cotton spot closed quiet; middling uplands 5 13-16c; middling gulf, 6 1-16c. Sales 1,330 bales.

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